



Burwood Inc.1874
Burwood . Burwood Heights . Croydon . Croydon Park . Enfield . Strathfield

Attachments Paper
Burwood Council Meeting
Tuesday, 17 February, 2026
6:00 PM

Table of Contents

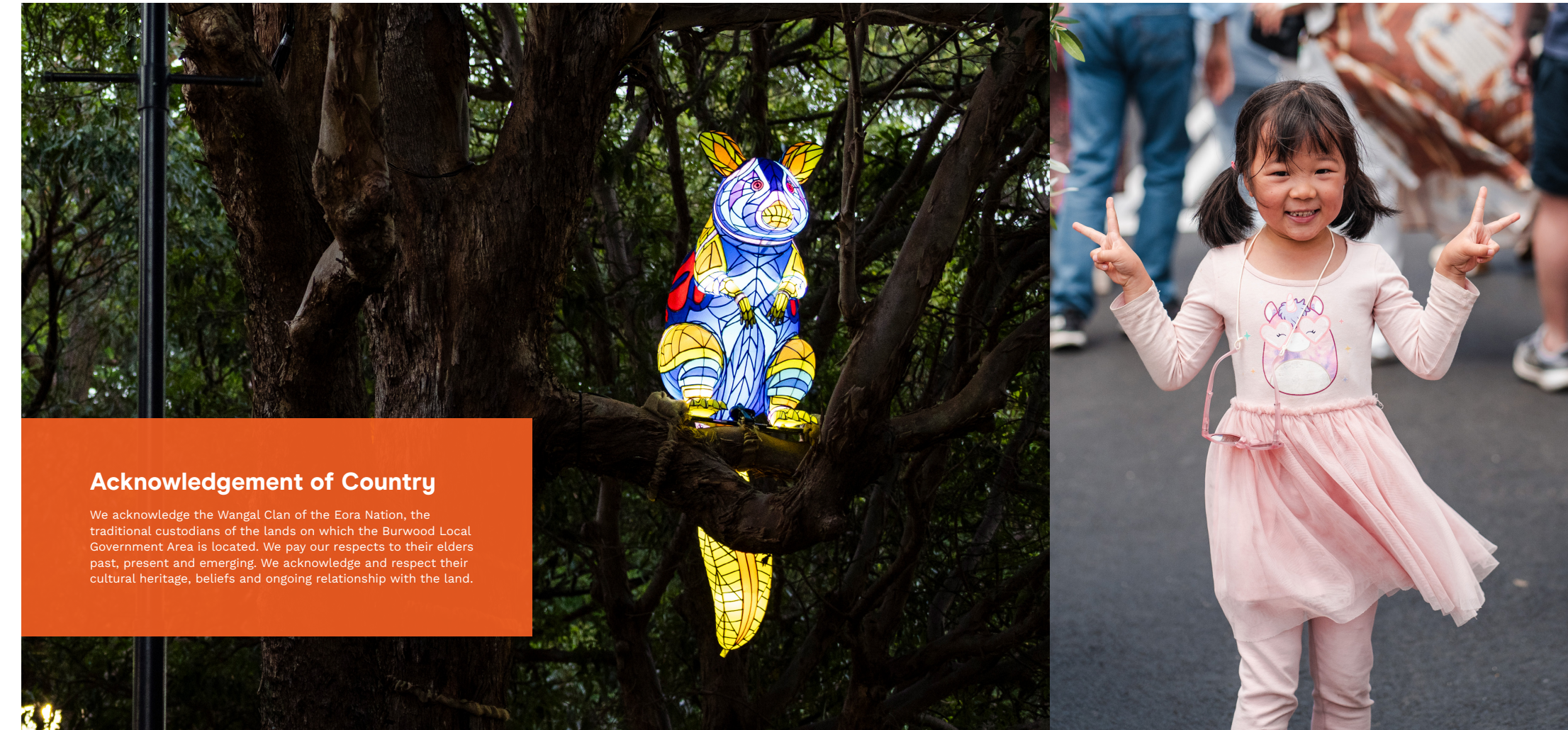
Reports to Council

6/26	Half-Yearly Report - July to December 2025	
	Attachment 1: Half Yearly Report July - December 2025	3
7/26	DCP Amendment - Liveability Improvements to Apartment Developments - Adoption - Post Exhibition	
	Attachment 1: Liveability Improvements for RFBs in Burwood_DRP Minutes ..	41
	Attachment 2: Liveability Improvements Exhibited DCP - minor amendments	48
	Attachment 3: Submission from NSW Urban Taskforce Australia	70
	Attachment 4: Submission from a local resident	72



Burwood
Inc.1874

Half Yearly Report
July - December 2025



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Wangal Clan of the Eora Nation, the traditional custodians of the lands on which the Burwood Local Government Area is located. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and ongoing relationship with the land.

Contents

Introduction	4
Our highlights	6
<div></div> Inclusive community & culture	15
<div></div> Places for people	31
<div></div> Sustainable & protected environment	43
<div></div> Vibrant city & villages	49
<div></div> Open & collaborative leadership	61



Introduction

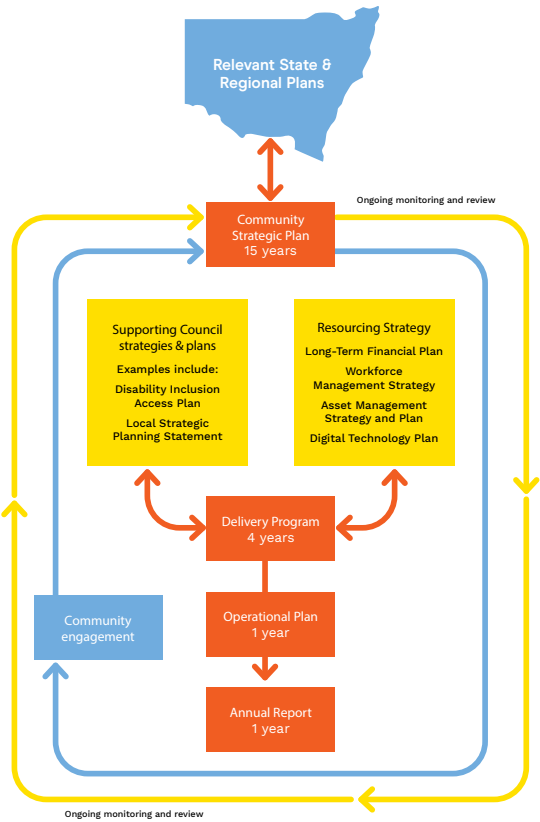
The integrated planning and reporting process

This Half-Yearly Report is part of Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting framework, designed to provide our community with clear, accessible and transparent updates on our progress.

Covering the second half of 2025, this report shows how Council has been delivering on the strategic goals, objectives, and actions set out in the 2022–2026 Delivery Program. The report reflects on achievements, challenges and progress across 124 actions, grouped under five key themes:

- Inclusive community & culture
- Places for people
- Sustainable & protected environment
- Vibrant city & villages
- Open & collaborative leadership

This report is not just numbers and progress, it's about sharing the story of how Council is working with our community to build a more connected, sustainable, and vibrant Burwood.



Measuring our success

Completed	An action has been completed during the reporting period	11 actions completed
On track	The action is on track for completion as scheduled	113 actions on track
Not due to start	The action is not due to start during the reporting period	0 actions not due to start
Monitor	The action is underway, but may not be completed in time or it has been postponed	0 actions being monitored



Our highlights

Arts, Culture and Connection

This report demonstrates Burwood's continued advancement across critical strategic areas, encompassing cultural growth, infrastructure investment, inclusive service delivery, and the enhancement of Burwood as a dynamic, around-the-clock destination.

The Burwood Art Prize 2026 opened on 12 December 2025, inviting Sydney-based artists to respond to this year's theme I AM HERE. The Burwood Art Prize encourages thoughtful reflections on cultural identity, personal narrative and a celebration of the many voices that shape contemporary multicultural Australia.

The 2026 Burwood Art Prize includes a \$20,000 acquisitive award, offering a significant opportunity for artists to have their work recognised and acquired for the Burwood Council Collection, with the support of sponsorship from Anson Group.

This year also marks an exciting new partnership with the Museum of

Contemporary Art, strengthening the Burwood Art Prize's commitment to supporting artistic practice and expanding professional pathways for emerging and established artists.

As part of the first six months of the implementation of Creative Burwood Council has delivered several key initiatives including the development of the Creative Residency Studios in the Library and Community Hub, and the establishment of a Special Entertainment Precinct in the Burwood Town Centre, 17 diverse events and activations were delivered that engaged our diverse communities, attracted new audiences and supported the local economy.

Finally, the transformation of Ford Lane into Sydney's newest hireable performance venue, through the development of 5 themed murals and its activation with Fridays at Ford Program and the ACDC Tribute activation celebrated Burwood's rich musical history. Council also signed a three-year MOU with the Museum of Contemporary Art, Australia in December which will see the fruition of a number of significant cultural initiatives that will benefit and enhance Burwood's cultural sector.

Enhancing Community Spaces and Infrastructure

Council is continuing with its **tree planting program** and has finalised the planting locations for a further 55 street trees in the most suitable locations to best increase the urban tree canopy and reduce the overall temperature of the urban environment. Street Tree planting will commence in March 2026 in Autumn. In addition, four trees in pots were installed on Meta Street Rail Bridge and a further 8 trees were planted at the Burwood Road/Georges River Road gateway.

Daily street sweeping of central areas continued, alongside sweeping every street in the LGA every 3 weeks. Car parks were also swept and litter picked at least weekly.

Burwood has been divided into zones for the civil team to inspect and clear blockages and undertake necessary drainage works. Cleaning of pits in high catchment areas is on a monthly schedule. From July to December 2025 - 150 lineal metres of lines were cleaned and 400 pits maintained



Celebrating Youth

Several initiatives were delivered over the reporting period with the goal of empowering, celebrating and supporting the young people of Burwood. Examples include:

The Youth Advisory Group met 3 times, provided feedback on major projects, and began planning Youth Week 2026.

Council Provided 3 work placements for 1 international and 2 high school students.

Built an international student network, hosted a Nepalese forum, and partnered with Student Leadership Ambassadors to co-develop engagement program.

Trialled 3 mindfulness sessions during HSC Study Nights for Mental Health Month with Metro Assist and Library and held 2 vaping workshops with Catholic Care.

Partnered on a weekly Burwood Youth Outreach run at Burwood Park and monthly at Burwood Uniting Church, delivered by Fusion.

Profiled local young people through Burwood Stories campaign and art exhibitions, as well as young creatives engaging in the Live Music Forum and performing at community events.

Community Hub: Two exhibitions were delivered that were created by local youth, Speaking 4 the Planet and the annual Burwood Girls High School exhibition. HSC Study Nights was also opened during exam time, with the Hub open for students after hours. This was successful with around 40-50 students using the Hub each night



Citizenship Ceremonies

Burwood Council places significant importance on Australian citizenship and proudly hosts citizenship ceremonies for local residents who have been approved by the Department of Home Affairs to become Australian citizens.

During the reporting period, Council conducted three Citizenship Ceremonies: on 25 July 2025, 71 residents were conferred Australian citizenship; on 5 September 2025, 52 residents became Australian citizens; and on 13 November 2025, a further 82 residents were conferred citizenship.

Mayor's Business Commendation Awards

Council held the 2025 Mayor's Business Commendation Awards in November, the largest Business Commendation Awards event to date at Burwood Council, with 28 local businesses recognised.

In addition to the long-standing 10+, 25+ and 40+ Years of Service awards, Generational Family Business and Business Impact commendations, the program expanded in 2025 to include two new categories:

- Food Safety Excellence
- Best Shopfront

Mobile Playvan

Mobile Playvan celebrated 20 years of service, connection and community impact in October, marked by a birthday event in Burwood Park. The service was also featured at Lifestart Disability Services and the opening of the Burwood Park All Abilities Playground, in recognition of the International Day of People with Disability.

High Quality and Impactful Events

Council delivered 17 vibrant events in 2025/26, ranging from small community activations to large-scale celebrations. Highlights included:

- Walk to End Domestic Violence
- Four Friday@Ford Activations (funded by Transport for NSW)
- Expanded Greek Street Fair in partnership with St Necatarios Church
- International Day of People with Disability: Community Picnic for Children with Disability in Burwood Park
- ACDC Tribute at Railway Parade
- Christmas in Croydon and Carols in the Park with Cambridge Markets

Destination Burwood

Burwood was recognised as Australia's Coolest Neighbourhood by Time Out magazine and ranked 16th coolest in the world. Council will continue to explore and strengthen this relationship to promote Burwood as a vibrant destination.

Affordable Housing

Council commenced a comprehensive review and development of an Affordable Housing Strategy, with a focus on facilitating the delivery of affordable housing within the new Croydon and Burwood North masterplanned areas.



Parking and Tackling Congestion

Council commenced a review of the Burwood Public Parking Strategy, with a Draft Strategy prepared and internal stakeholder consultation underway. The review focuses on improving parking turnover, reducing traffic generated by vehicles circulating in search of parking, and addressing the impacts of high parking demand in residential streets.

Place Activation

Council has progressed the rollout of its Licence to Play framework, supporting business- and community-led place activation across key centres. Place-enabling works in Ford Lane have transformed the space from a serviceway into an inviting, event-ready precinct.

Sustainable Burwood

Council's focus on building a sustainable Burwood has delivered a range of initiatives aligned with the Sustainable Burwood Strategy. These include the continuation of the Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) trial to reduce landfill waste and the use of Council's Waste App, which provides bin collection reminders and guidance on correct waste sorting. All Council-owned buildings, facilities and street lighting are now powered by 100 per cent renewable energy.

Public Art

Nine exciting public art projects were delivered under the 2025/26 Public Art Program, including five striking murals and a dramatic lighting installation as part of the Ford Lane Transformation Project. These installations have helped bring Ford Lane to life, creating a vibrant, engaging space for the community to enjoy.

Keeping Burwood Clean

Council has removed over 500 abandoned trolleys from public land and investigated more than 150 incidents of illegal dumping to maintain clean and safe streets



A Thriving Night-Time Economy

Burwood's night-time economy is undergoing an exciting transformation, positioning it as one of Sydney's most dynamic and safe destinations. Highlights from the second half of 2025 include:

- Development of a Special Entertainment Precinct within the Burwood Town Centre to facilitate a greater uptake of live performance and set a clear and coherent trading hours and sound emission framework for the Centre. Council has also undertaken a thorough assessment of the Town Centre, working closely with stakeholders, to achieve Purple Flag accreditation from the NSW government, recognising Burwood as a safe, vibrant and well managed night time centre.
- Moving forward with the rollout of Councils its Licence to Play framework to support business and community led place activation within our key centres. Council has completed place-enabling works in Ford Lane to transform the space from a serviceway into an inviting, event-ready space. A series of monthly Friday night activations were delivered in Ford Lane, focused on attracting a youth audience.

- Council successfully executed a \$500,000 funding agreement with Transport NSW as part of the Permit Plug Play Program for the delivery of enabling infrastructure to support the delivery of street based events day and night. The project is now complete, unlocking more walkable, safe, and activated laneways across the City Centre.
- Secured a \$195,000 in funding as part of the Special Entertainment Precinct Kickstarter Program for related strategic planning activities, the preparation of acoustic criteria and community engagement.



Financial Sustainability & Revenue

Council has developed an Investment Strategy and Investment Policy through a third-party Investment Advisor which are reviewed regularly.

Council invests surplus funds with various financial institutions during the year.

These invested funds have been receiving at least 0.25 basis points above the RBA official rate at the time of investing. Council staff ensured that these invested funds are secure financial instruments.

Staff ensured that Council were made aware of invested funds through a monthly report tabled at Council meetings in accordance with legislative requirements.



Impactful Events

Council delivered 3 cultural events in the reporting period to celebrate the diversity of nationalities that call Burwood home. These included Greek Street Fair, Nepalese Teej and Korea Day.

Ford Lane was transformed from a rarely utilised serviceway into a inviting, event ready space which hosted a series of monthly Friday night activations featuring food, drinks and live music

Finally, in November Council paid tribute to AC/DC, the 'Battlers from Burwood', to celebrate the band's return to Sydney for the Power Up Tour. The special tribute at Railway Square featured a range of Sydney-based musicians, and included a special, limited-edition ice cream flavour.

Customer & Community experience

From 1 July 2025 to 19 December 2025, the number of customers served at the Customer Service counter was a total of 701 with 82.31% being served within 3 minutes. Calls handled by Customer Service totalled 12,460 with 81.2% answered in less than 40 seconds. Customer Service handled 314 Web Chats, responded to 2,983 emails and delivered the Call Centre Experience to 18 new staff during the period.

Customer feedback opportunities provide an ongoing voice for the customer and a benchmark for Council to measure customer experience. During the reporting period, Council received an overall Customer Experience Score (CX) of 8.1 based on 5,869 ratings across the organisation.

Council's Mobile Customer Service Team delivered 3 Customer Service pop up stalls at various locations including Deane Street, Railway Square and the Greek Street Fair. The team assisted customers with payments, clean up bookings, E-Permits and general enquiries.

Council has introduced a new contact centre solution at the Enfield Aquatic Centre (EAC). A feedback management module has also been implemented for the Customer Service and EAC contact centres, allowing callers to provide feedback, helping us ensure our services continue to meet the needs and expectations of our community.



Community support in action

Supporting the community was a core element of Council's deliverables of the reporting period, and the below are some of the highlights from the final six months of 2025:

- Reviewed and improved the 2025/26 Community Grants Guidelines and processes to align funding priorities with Council's new community plans.
- Introduced a new venue support (in-kind) option and enhanced application and grants administration processes.
- Commenced promotion for the 2025/26 grant round, which opened on 23 December 2025, with an increased funding pool of \$80,000.
- Supported five donation requests through Mayoral donations.



Recognising our volunteers

Council's Volunteering Program supports local organisations by connecting them with community volunteers. Between July and December 2025, Council referred 194 volunteers to external organisations across the Burwood LGA. Develop a capacity-building calendar or Mailchimp e-newsletter to support capacity building activities, and new community or education programs.



Bringing people together

From July to December 2025, Council worked with local organisations to deliver a range of 44 community programs in centres and parks across the LGA. Programs promoted fitness, wellbeing, creativity, and culture. Fitness activities included Fitter and Stronger, Zumba, Living Long Living Stronger, Line Dancing, DanceMoves for Seniors, Dance Classes for Individuals with Disabilities, Ballet Dancing for Seniors, Women & Girls Self Defence, and the Burwood Walking Group. Creative and cultural workshops featured Chinese Art, Photography Club, Sewing Bee, Earthbeats Early Childhood Music, Stitch It, Don't Ditch It, and the Seniors Computer Club. Together, these programs fostered social connection, learning, and inclusion. Approx 1,000 community members attended.

An independent review of the Community Program has been completed to inform the future direction of the program in 2026.

Our spaces, your places

Community facilities usage from 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025 showed very strong growth, with a total of 3,472 bookings. This was an increase of more than 25% on the first half of the year. The most popular sites were The Community Hub (1608), Woodstock (614), and Fitzroy Hall (483).

The sports field usage over the same period saw 1,385 bookings. The most popular site was Henley Park with 672 bookings. The figures include 3 new hireable locations - Community Labs 1 and 2, Woodstock Park BBQ Shelter and Henley Park synthetic cricket nets.



Burwood Library



Our Local Heritage Librarian has answered 73 enquiries over the first half of the year. History Week was celebrated with one exhibition delivered on Malvern Hill Estate, one workshop and three walks in the local area. This included a new walk detailing the history of the railway in Burwood. Five Burwood and District Family History Group meetings were supported; and a presentation on Council's latest online resources useful for family history research was delivered at their 40th-birthday celebratory meeting. Further to this, four displays were shown in the library and three professional development sessions were attended by the Local Heritage Librarian.

A community cohesion grant has provided the opportunity to deliver health and wellness events for the multicultural community, with events including mooncakes, Japanese carving and Tai Chi workshops. 1,000 Books Before School was launched in October, an early literacy program encouraging book engagement before school. A library survey was completed, with 96.8% satisfied with their overall experience. Staff helpfulness was marked as the highest factor of satisfaction, with saving money and reducing stress the two most identified impacts of the library. A review of the CD collection was completed, with review findings implemented during November.

Strategic priorities in action

Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022-2025

- Advisory Panel (DIAP) met quarterly to inform major infrastructure projects and completed an accessibility audit of Burwood & Jackson Parks.
- Developed Croydon Town Centre Mobility Map.
- Delivered inclusive events such as the launch of Burwood Park Inclusive Playground, community picnic with Lifestart, Carers Week with Carers Gateway and a monthly dementia café in partnership with 3Bridges.
- Delivered weekly dance classes and tailored aquatic programs for people with disability.
- Developed an Inclusive Hiring e-learning module and partnered with Australian Human Rights Commission on an Equality-at-work pilot.
- Enfield Aquatic Centre developed a “My Special Swim Day” storybook to support inclusive swimming lessons.
- Website and document accessibility improvements including staff training and accessibility guide completed.
- Incorporated access and inclusion criteria into the Mayor's annual Business Impact Commendation Awards.

Multicultural Burwood Strategy

- Nepalese Community Forum organised with the NSW Consul of Nepal, engaging over 50 stakeholders and services, focusing on youth mental health and community safety.
- Three intercultural events fostered community connection through shared dialogue, performances and collaboration
- Three cultural events delivered or supported - Greek Street Fair, Nepalese Teej and Korea Day.
- Held six bilingual Cyber Security Awareness Workshops in English, Greek, Korean, Mandarin (x2), and Tagalog, attended by over 300 people
- The Multicultural Advisory Committee met bi-monthly, advising Council on community initiatives, Council strategies, plans and key infrastructure projects.
- Implemented the Stories of Burwood communication campaign celebrating our shared values and community spirit - short social video stories featuring local residents and community representatives from diverse backgrounds, shared on Council social media

Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

- Re-established the RAP Implementation Working Group.
- EOI undertaken for Aboriginal Advisory Panel.
- Delivered two intercultural exchanges with Aboriginal Elders and CALD communities featuring cultural sharing, performances, and dialogue.
- Engaged 12 First Nations community members in a Connecting to Country workshop for the Enfield Aquatic Centre upgrade.
- Strengthened stakeholder networks and engaged with Metropolitan Land Council and Inner West ANTAR.
- Promoted NAIDOC Week and developed two banner artworks (Walking Together, Culture Connects) reflecting First Nations and CALD perspectives.
- Draft Cultural Protocols Guide developed and adopted Local Government First Nations Procurement Scheme to improve access for Aboriginal businesses.

Safer Burwood

- Community safety education including cyber-safety (5 sessions), E-Bike and Rock Fishing safety workshops.
- DFV and elder abuse initiatives including the Walk to End Domestic Violence, Love and Hope DV Hub, Women in Touch program (18 sessions) supporting wellbeing and social connection for women escaping domestic violence, and an Elder Abuse Awareness Forum with faith and community leaders.
- Public space transformation and activation of Ford Lane and Railway Square and nine multicultural and multifaith events delivered.
- Continued implementation of Council's Homelessness Protocol with 16 rough sleeper referrals to outreach support.
- Council submitted Purple Flag accreditation and progressed development of the Special Entertainment Precinct to support a safe, vibrant night-time economy.
- Three grant-funded safety projects were delivered and funding secured for an upcoming Voices Not Violence project with NSW Police and schools.



Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants

Council has made significant progress across the 11 projects that will deliver over \$110 million of upgrades and improvements to local infrastructure across Burwood.

Key achievements in the reporting period include:

- Completion of the park upgrade projects at Woodstock Park and Burwood Park, with an event held at Burwood Park on the 4th of December 2025 to officially open the new inclusive playground.
- Site establishment and preliminary works have commenced in front of Burwood Library for the new Burwood Culture House.
- An extensive community consultation exercise was undertaken to gain feedback from the community on their preferences for the upcoming street transformation projects at Burwood Road, Deane Street and Bells Lane. Views were sought via an online survey and in person pop-up engagement sessions held across the three sites. 209 responses were received through the online survey, and 433 individuals were engaged with at the in-person events.
- The majority of works are complete at Henley Park, with the turf and seating installed. Final works are scheduled for early 2026, with the project expected to open in Autumn 2026.

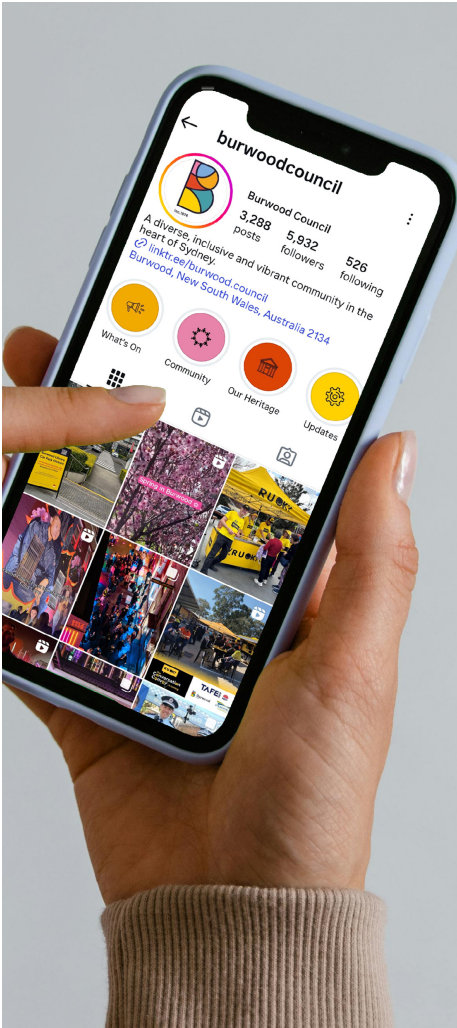
How we engaged with you

During the second half of 2025, Burwood Council's Participate Burwood page recorded 21,849 views, 17,068 visits and 11,519 unique visitors, generating 499 contributions from 440 contributions.

Traffic to the Participate Burwood page was driven mainly via direct navigation (41.5%) as well as search engines (35%), websites (18%), social media, campaigns and AI assistants.

Council continues to deliver on the actions outlined in the Community Engagement Strategy. During the reporting period, the most active projects included the Burwood North Precinct Masterplan, Burwood Culture House, Burwood North Metro Station, Alternate Masterplan in response to Croydon Transport Oriented Development (TOD) and the Burwood Road and Deane Street Transformation.

In the reporting period, 993 posts were published on social media (excluding regular stories and accompanying posts to further community engagement), representing a significant increase in the provision of information to the community.



Providing Essential Aquatic Services to Our Community

The Centre has maintained 8 existing programs and introduced 4 new programs to provide more options and drive visitations. These are:

Maintained Programs

- Learn to Swim
- Squads
- Holiday Intensive Program
- School Intensive Program
- Royal Life CALD Program
- Pilates
- Aqua Fitness
- Aqua Zumba

New Programs

- Squads Holiday Intensives
- Squads Weekend Sessions
- Preschool Program for Learn to Swim
- Holiday Fitness Classes

A variety of incentives have been organised to engage the local community and increase visitations throughout the year including:

- Free entry for residents 55+ (Tuesdays in January 2026).
- Free entry for children under 16 (Wednesdays and Thursdays in January 2026).
- Free entry for local residents for the Australia Day Pool Party (26 January 2026).
- Seniors Festival - free entry and classes (March 2025).

Mobile Playvan magic

Mobile Playvan continued to provide a high quality and popular service from July to December with 65 sessions delivered to an estimated 2,142 families and a total number of 6280 people. A Chinese speaking support worker attended 8 sessions to engage with non-English speaking carers.

Collaborations with the following services providing families with access to information and support:

- Regular support visits from Centrelink
- Sydney Local Health District (School Readiness Information Session)
- 4 Library Outreach service visits
- ASPECT held 3 preparation for childcare information sessions.

Mobile Playvan celebrated 20 years of service, connection and community impact in October, with a birthday event in Burwood Park. It also featured at the Lifestart Disability Services and opening of Burwood Park All Abilities Playground, celebrating International Day for People with Disability.



**Inclusive
community
& culture**



A thriving community where diversity is embraced, everyone is valued, connected and has the opportunity to contribute and belong.

Inclusive community & culture cont'd

A welcoming community that cares and looks after each other

Support and deliver initiatives that encourage social inclusion and community connections

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.1	Community & Culture	Coordinate Council's Volunteer Program and initiatives to support and recognise volunteering in the community	On Track	Council's Volunteering Program supports local organisations by connecting them with community volunteers. Between July and December 2025, Council referred 194 volunteers to external organisations across the Burwood LGA. Council plans to develop a capacity-building calendar or Mailchimp e-newsletter to support capacity building activities, and new community or education programs.
A.2	People & Performance	Deliver annual awards programs that recognise local community and business achievements	On Track	<p>On 12 November, Council held the 2025 Mayor's Business Commendation Awards, the biggest event held to date with 28 businesses recognised. This year, in addition to 10+, 25+ and 40+ years of service, Generational Family Business and the Business Impact commendation, the program expanded to include two new categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Food Safety Excellence- Best Shopfront <p>The event, held at Burwood Park, also served as an opportunity for businesses to network and hear from local industry professionals -including Sydney Food Brothers on growing their own business, and Service NSW on the State Government's local business support programs. Businesses were also given cinematic promotional reels of their businesses filmed by Council and showcased on the night for marketing and promotional use. Over 100 people attended on the night.</p> <p>Promotion has commenced for the 2026 Australia Day Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Awards Program.</p>

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.3	Community & Culture	Deliver capacity building and funding initiatives to support the community sector, including the annual Community Grants, Club Grants and the Councillor's Donation Programs	On Track	<p>Progress included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewed and improved the 2025/26 Community Grants Guidelines and processes to align funding priorities with Council's new community plans.• Introduced a new venue support (in-kind) option and enhanced application and grants administration processes.• Commenced promotion for the 2025/26 grant round, which opened on 23 December 2025, with an increased funding pool of \$80,000.• Supported five donation requests through Mayoral donations.• Convened and participated in the ClubGRANTS Assessment Panel meeting in July 2025.• Continued distribution of information on available funding from Federal and State Government and other sources.
A.4	Community & Culture	Implement the Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022-2025	On Track	<p>Key achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisory Panel (DIAP) met quarterly to inform major infrastructure projects; completed an accessibility audit of Burwood & Jackson Parks.• Developed Croydon Town Centre Mobility Map.• * Delivered inclusive events - launch of Burwood Park Inclusive Playground, community picnic with Lifestart; Carers Week with Carers Gateway and monthly Dementia Café in partnership with 3Bridges.• * Delivered weekly dance classes and tailored aquatic programs for people with disability.• * Developed an Inclusive Hiring e-learning module and partnered with Australian Human Rights Commission on an Equality-at-Work pilot.• * Enfield Aquatic Centre developed a "My Special Swim Day" storybook to support inclusive swimming lessons.• * Website and document accessibility improvements including staff training and accessibility guide completed.• * Incorporated access and inclusion criteria into the Mayor's annual Business Impact Commendation Awards.

Inclusive community & culture cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.5	Community & Culture	Implement the Multicultural Burwood Strategy 2024-2028	On Track	<div>Highlights included:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Nepalese Community Forum organised with the NSW Consul of Nepal, engaging over 50 stakeholders and services, focusing on youth mental health and community safety.Threeintercultural events fostered community connection through shared dialogue, performances and collaborationThree cultural events were delivered or supported - Greek Street Fair, Nepalese Teej and Korea Day.Six bilingual Cyber Security Awareness Workshops in English, Greek, Korean, Mandarin (x2), and Tagalog, attended by over 300 peopleThe Multicultural Advisory Committee met bi-monthly, advising Council on community initiatives, Council strategies, plans and key infrastructure projects.Implemented the Stories of Burwood communication campaign celebrating our shared values and community spirit - short social video stories featuring local residents and community representatives from diverse backgrounds, shared on Council social media
A.6	Community & Culture	Implement the Burwood Youth Action Plan 2024 to 2027	On Track	<div>Key actions delivered:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Youth Advisory Group met three times, provided feedback on major projects, and began planning Youth Week 2026.Provided three work placements for one international and two high school students.Built international student networks, hosted Nepalese forum, and partnered with Student Leadership Ambassadors to co-develop engagement program.Delivered and evaluated Family Hub pilot in July and August at Woodstock with CABL and local services.Trialled three mindfulness sessions during HSC Study Nights for Mental Health Month with Metro Assist and Library. Held two vaping awareness workshops with Catholic Care.Weekly Burwood Youth Outreach run at Burwood Park and monthly at Burwood Uniting Church, delivered by Fusion.Profiled local young people through Burwood Stories campaign and art exhibitions.Young creatives engaged in the Live Music Forum and performed at community events.Youth leaders contributed to planning Speaking 4 the Planet 2026.

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.7	Community & Culture	Implement social research program to identify and address existing and emerging community needs	On Track	<div>Social research initiatives have focused on seniors and international students.</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Progress on the Seniors Research Project included development of a research paper incorporating a demographic snapshot, mapping of programs, and analysis of engagement data and sector trends.Research into international student needs has commenced with mapping available support services and networks; hosting a Nepalese community forum in collaboration with the NSW Consul of Nepal; reviewing national research; and establishing a partnership with the City of Sydney's International Student Leadership Ambassador Program. A student-led engagement project has been designed, with six student leaders recruited to co-design and deliver an engagement program in early 2026.Planning has commenced for the Annual Rough Sleeper Street Count to be held in February 2026.



Inclusive community & culture cont'd

Facilitate equitable access to services and facilities at all stages of life

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.8	Customer Experience & Business Improvement	Manage the allocation and use of community facilities, venues, parks and sports fields	On Track	Community Facilities usage from 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025 included: Burwood Park Community Centre (355) Fitzroy Hall (483) Woodstock (614) George Street Centre (245) The Community Hub (1608) Henley Park Community Centre (3) and Conference Room (164). The sports field usage from 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025 included: Blair Park (141) Burwood Park (58) Woodstock Park (24) Flockhart Park (111) Grant Park (15) Wangal Park (61) and Henley Park (672.) New hireable locations, Woodstock Park BBQ Shelter (7), Henley Park synthetic cricket nets (9) Community Labs 1 and 2 (287)

Support community resilience initiatives to adapt to changing circumstances

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.9	People & Performance	Implement a community resilience building initiative that supports local businesses, promotes creativity and builds on social and place capital	Completed	In November 2025, Council together with the Hon. Steve Kamper MP officially launched its first Investment & Visitation Prospectus at Crowne Plaza Burwood in partnership with Business Sydney. The event also saw a dynamic panel discussion featuring Mayor of Burwood John Faker GAICD, 24-Hour Economy Commissioner Michael Rodrigues and industry experts Alexi Boyd and Andrew Coward. The new Prospectus lays out how Burwood Council is bringing statewide priorities to life at the local level, from strategic growth corridors and cultural vibrancy to a thriving multicultural dining and nightlife scene, major public domain upgrades, and clear pathways for future investment. The event was attended by over 100 guests from various industries including travel and hospitality, events, arts, building and development and more. The Prospectus is widely available digitally, and planning has commenced for the roll out of the printed Prospectus across various sites in Burwood and Greater Sydney.

Acknowledge, respect and engage First Nations peoples, their culture and heritage

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.10	Community & Culture	Implement the Reconciliation Action Plan	On Track	Key achievements: Re-established the RAP Implementation Working Group. EOI undertaken for Aboriginal Advisory Panel. Delivered two intercultural exchanges with Aboriginal Elders and CALD communities featuring cultural sharing, performances, and dialogue. Engaged 12 First Nations community members in a Connecting to Country workshop for the Enfield Aquatic Centre upgrade. Strengthened stakeholder networks and engaged with Metropolitan Land Council and Inner West ANTAR. Promoted NAIDOC Week and developed two banner artworks (Walking Together, Culture Connects) reflecting First Nations and CALD perspectives. Draft Cultural Protocols Guide developed and adopted Local Government First Nations Procurement Scheme to improve access for Aboriginal businesses.

A healthy and active lifestyle where people experience a sense of connection and wellbeing

Provide access to formal and informal lifelong learning and recreation opportunities, facilities and services

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.11	Library & Community Hub	Implement the Burwood Library Strategic Plan	On Track	A community cohesion grant has provided the opportunity to deliver health and wellness events for the multicultural community, with events including mooncakes, Japanese carving and Tai Chi workshops. 1,000 Books Before School was launched in October, an early literacy program encouraging book engagement before school. A library survey was completed, with 96.8% satisfied with their overall experience. Staff helpfulness was marked as the highest factor of satisfaction, with saving money and reducing stress the two most identified impacts of the library. A review of the CD collection was completed, with review findings implemented during November.

Inclusive community & culture cont'd



Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.12	Library & Community Hub	Deliver initiatives that promote and improve access to local heritage	On Track	Our Local Heritage Librarian has answered 73 enquiries over the first half of the year. History Week was celebrated with one exhibition delivered on Malvern Hill Estate, one workshop and three walks in the local area. This included a new walk detailing the history of the railway in Burwood. Five Burwood and District Family History Group meetings were supported; and a presentation on Council's latest online resources useful for family history research was delivered at their 40th-birthday celebratory meeting. Further to this, four displays were shown in the library and three professional development sessions were attended by the Local Heritage Librarian.
A.13	Library & Community Hub	Activate the Community Hub with a range of opportunities that foster belonging and wellbeing	Completed	112 events have been delivered in the Community Hub with 2,157 attendees. Three exhibitions were delivered. Two of these exhibitions were created by local youth: Speaking 4 the Planet and the annual Burwood Girls High School exhibition. Activation of the studios continues to be successful with seven local artists of different medias using the space through residency. The other studio is popular as a free bookable space for content creation. HSC Study Nights was delivered during exam time with the Hub open for students after hours. This was successful with 40-50 students using the Hub each night. We hosted rt Cases from the National Gallery of Australia, showcasing different art pieces from their collection as a hands-on experience for the community.. Our gaming programming continues to be extremely popular with three mini "game-cons" delivered over this period. This was showcased at SXSW Sydney, and our Creative Experience Officer has been recognised at a State level for his innovative work.
A.14	Library & Community Hub	Deliver community programs and Mobile Play Van in community spaces and ensure they offer value for money and respond to community needs	On Track	<p>From July to December 2025, Council worked with local organisations to deliver a range of 44 community programs in centres and parks across the LGA. Programs promoted fitness, wellbeing, creativity, and culture. Fitness activities included Fitter and Stronger, Zumba, Living Long Living Stronger, Line Dancing, DanceMoves for Seniors, Dance Classes for Individuals with Disabilities, Ballet Dancing for Seniors, Women & Girls Self Defence, and the Burwood Walking Group. Creative and cultural workshops featured Chinese Art, Photography Club, Sewing Bee, Earthbeats Early Childhood Music, Stitch It, Don't Ditch It, and the Seniors Computer Club. Together, these programs fostered social connection, learning, and inclusion. Approx 1,000 community members attended.</p> <p>An independent review of the Community Program has been completed to inform the future direction of the program in 2026.</p>

Inclusive community & culture cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.15	Community & Culture	Deliver Council's Mobile Play Van Service in community spaces	On Track	<p>Mobile Playvan continued to provide a high quality and popular service from July to December with 65 sessions delivered to an estimated 2,142 families and a total number of 6,280 people. A Chinese speaking support worker attended eight sessions to engage with non-English speaking carers.</p> <p>Collaboration with the following services provided families with access to information and support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Regular support visits from CentrelinkSydney Local Health District (School Readiness Information Session)Four Library Outreach service visitsASPECT held three preparation for childcare information sessions. <p>Mobile Playvan celebrated 20 years of service, connection and community impact in October, with a 20 Year Birthday event in Burwood Park. It also featured at the Lifestart Disability Services and Opening of Burwood Park All Abilities Playground, celebrating International Day for People with Disability.</p>
A.16	Enfield Aquatic Centre	Operate and expand Council's Learn to Swim Program	Completed	<p>During the first half of the 2025/26 financial year, the programs department has successfully operated and expanded its Learn to Swim programs across Term 4 2025 and Term 1 2026. While maintaining consistent enrolment in standard programs, the Council significantly increased its community reach through two key initiatives. During Term 4 2025, the School Intensive program hosted a greater number of schools compared to the previous year, providing essential water safety education to a larger student cohort. Furthermore, in collaboration with Royal Life Saving Australia, the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) program in Term 1 2026 saw substantial growth, expanding from 28 available positions last year to 58 fully booked positions this year. These targeted programs ensure that essential swimming and water safety education remains accessible to diverse and high-need demographics within the Burwood community</p>

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.17	Enfield Aquatic Centre	Deliver a range of health, fitness and wellbeing programs to drive visitation	Completed	<p>The Centre has maintained eight existing programs and introduced four new programs to provide more options and drive visitations:</p> <p>Maintained Programs included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Learn to SwimSquadsHoliday Intensive ProgramSchool Intensive ProgramRoyal Life CALD ProgramPilatesAqua FitnessAqua Zumba <p>New Programs included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Squads Holiday IntensivesSquads Weekend SessionsPreschool Program for Learn to SwimHoliday fitness classes
A.18	Enfield Aquatic Centre	Undertake Royal Life Saving Aquatic Facility Safety Assessment (AFSA) Audit Program	Completed	<p>ASFA will not be going ahead in 2026 due to closure of EAC.</p>
A.19	Enfield Aquatic Centre	Increase visitations through a range of incentives for the local community	Completed	<p>A variety of incentives have been organised to engage the local community and increase visitations throughout the year including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Free entry for residents 55+ (Tuesdays in January 2026);Free entry for children under 16 (Wednesdays and Thursdays in January 2026);Free entry for local residents for the Australia Day Pool Party (26 January 2026);Seniors Festival - free entry and classes (March 2025).

Inclusive community & culture cont'd

Ensure people of all abilities and backgrounds can enjoy our public spaces and places

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.20	Community Safety	Coordinate Council's CCTV Program	On Track	Council has actioned all CCTV applications within the service level time frame. All CCTV applications dealt with criminal offences as listed in the Code of Practice and assisted Police with their investigations.
A.21	Community & Culture	Implement the Child Safe Action Plan	On Track	As part of Council's Child Safe Action Plan, several initiatives have been completed including: the creation of a child friendly - Children's Feedback and Complaints Form, and the continued monitoring of WWCC renewals through a centralised system. Child safety has been a focus for Burwood Library with an e-safety display in Burwood Library's Children's area exploring some of the common online experiences of children, what to do when something unexpected happens on a screen, and highlighting safe internet practices for the whole family. Additionally, there is a new multi-lingual display on the new social media minimum age requirements. Child Protection Week and related activities were promoted through the Burwood Region Child and Family Interagency to members and networks. Membership and Terms of Reference of the Child Safety Working Group has been reviewed to ensure its ongoing effectiveness.
A.22	Community & Culture	Implement Safer Burwood Plan	On Track	<p>Key achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community safety education including cyber-safety (5 sessions), E-Bike and Rock Fishing safety workshops.DFV and elder abuse initiatives including the Walk to End Domestic Violence, Love and Hope DV Hub, Women in Touch program (18 sessions) supporting wellbeing and social connection for women escaping domestic violence, and an Elder Abuse Awareness Forum with faith and community leaders.Public space transformation and activation of Ford Lane and Railway Square and nine multicultural and multifaith events delivered.Continued implementation of Council's Homelessness Protocol with 16 rough sleeper referrals to outreach support.Council submitted Purple Flag accreditation and progressed development of the Special Entertainment Precinct to support a safe, vibrant night-time economy.Three grant-funded safety projects were delivered and funding secured for an upcoming Voices Not Violence project with NSW Police and schools.

Provide opportunities for people to participate in activities and events that celebrate our diverse

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.23	Community & Culture	Deliver Council's ongoing program of events that celebrate local community and culture	On Track	<p>Seventeen events delivered to date ranging from small to large scale activations which include - Walk to End Domestic Violence, 4x Friday@Ford Activations (funded by Transport for NSW), Mobile PlayVan 20th Anniversary in Burwood Park, a hugely successful and expanded Greek Street Fair in partnership with St Nectarios Church, International Day of People with Disability: Community Picnic for Children with Disability in Burwood Park, ACDC Tribute at Railway Parade, Live Music Forum, Burwood Park Inclusive Playspace and Amenities Upgrade Opening, Christmas in Croydon and Carols in the Park with Cambridge Markets.</p> <p>Civic Events delivered to date include Sandakan Memorial Service, Remembrance Day and three Citizenship Ceremonies</p>
A.24	Community & Culture	Support external groups/providers to deliver community events		<p>Council has worked closely with seven external organisations to provide event planning and delivery support to promote safety and high levels of community engagement for the following events - Battle of Somme Memorial, Cambridge Winter Markets (July), Nepalese Teej Festival (August), Greater Sydney Nepalese Multicultural Centre - Festival (August), Korea Day Festival (September), Dashain Festival (October - cancelled) and Cambridge Christmas Markets.</p> <p>A new Expression of Interest process for Major Events & Festivals to be held in Burwood Park in 2026 was opened. This new EOI process enables a fair and transparent application process, eliminates uncertainty around bookings and seeks to deliver a curated, inspired and engaging Major Events and Festivals Program at Burwood Park. It also enables event organisers to focus on unique and quality programming whilst ensuring a safe and well-presented event.</p>
A.25	Office of General Manager	Deliver regular citizenship ceremonies	Completed	<p>Burwood Council places significant importance on Australian citizenship and proudly hosts citizenship ceremonies for local residents who have been approved by the Department of Home Affairs to become Australian citizens.</p> <p>During the reporting period, Council conducted three Citizenship Ceremonies: on 25 July 2025, 71 residents were conferred Australian citizenship; on 5 September 2025, 52 residents became Australian citizens; and on 13 November 2025, a further 82 residents were conferred citizenship.</p> <p>Planning is currently underway for the 2026 Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony, which will also include the presentation of Burwood's 2026 Citizen of the Year Awards.</p>



Places for people



Our places are built around people, protect our heritage and are well planned and liveable with housing, transport and infrastructure that meet the diverse and changing needs of our community.

Places for people cont'd

An urban environment that maintains and enhances our sense of identity and place

Facilitate well designed, high quality and sustainable land use and development that is appropriately scaled to complement its surroundings

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.26	City Development	Provide efficient, timely development assessment services, including pre-DA support	On Track	City Development have reduced DA assessment timeframes to 55 days becoming one of the most efficient assessing metro Councils. This timeframe is significantly less than the 110-day timeframe set by the NSW Government. Over 2025 the Pre-DA service was expanded with a 100% increase in customers choosing to consult with Council prior to lodging an application.
A.27	City Planning	Complete Planning Proposal for Gateway Determination including DCP, Public Domain Plan and Infrastructure Plan for Burwood North	On Track	<p>On Monday, 11 August 2025, the NSW Government announced it would take the lead in rezoning the Burwood North Metro Precinct to deliver new homes near the future Burwood North Metro Station. Building on masterplanning work undertaken by both Burwood and Canada Bay Councils, the State-led rezoning is now being progressed through the State Significant Rezoning Pathway, enabling the accelerated delivery of housing and supporting infrastructure.</p> <p>Council has been working closely with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to support the rezoning and its implementation. All relevant documentation, including submissions and site-specific alternative proposals prepared and received as part of Council's masterplanning process, has been forwarded to the Department for consideration under the State-led rezoning. Exhibition of the updated DPHI masterplan is anticipated in early 2026.</p>
A.28	City Planning	Review and update the Burwood Contributions Plan to facilitate appropriate delivery of infrastructure	On Track	<p>A Development Contributions Audit has also been finalised, and response actions have been implemented, including a review of contribution payments.</p> <p>A final project plan, resource allocation, and commencement of the strategy review will be initiated in the 2025/26 financial year.</p>

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.29	City Planning	Investigate and prepare options that respond to State Government Transport Oriented Development (TOD) SEPP Program	On Track	In January 2025, Council adopted an alternative to the NSW Government's Croydon TOD Program. This has been submitted for gazettal, with approval by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure anticipated in early 2026.
A.30	City Planning	Work closely with neighbouring Councils on cross boundary planning issues to ensure Burwood's interests are communicated	On Track	Quarterly meetings with Strathfield and Canada Bay Councils are ongoing. Intermittent team catch-ups with Inner West Council also occur. In addition, contact has been initiated with the City of Canterbury-Bankstown to support further relationship-building efforts.
A.31	City Development	Ensure that design excellence is assessed as part of the development application process	On Track	Design excellence has been embedded in the development assessment process. All eligible applications are referred to the Burwood Design Review Panel. Referrals are also made to the internal Executive Urban Designer. Council has resolved to continue the Design Review Panel through the appointment of a new group of panel members and has also endorsed a planning proposal to implement design competitions for large-scale developments.

Places for people cont'd

Protect our unique built heritage and maintain or enhance local character

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.32	City Development	Undertake a heritage assessment of all development applications relating to heritage items or conservation	On Track	<p>Council continues to support the retention and maintenance of heritage within the local government area while balancing the need to provide additional housing and respond to development demands. An in-house Senior Heritage Advisor is engaged by Council to assist with the assessment of development applications as required.</p> <p>Appropriate heritage conservation and management have been embedded within the development assessment process. All eligible applications are referred to Council's Senior Heritage Advisor for comment and advice, while minor works applications are processed efficiently and in a timely manner.</p> <p>To further streamline assessment timeframes, Council has obtained additional delegations from the Local Planning Panel, enabling minor heritage applications to be determined under delegation. This initiative has significantly improved assessment efficiency while ensuring heritage impacts continue to be appropriately considered.</p>

Promote greater diversity of quality housing and affordability to meet current and future community needs

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.33	City Planning	Complete Affordable Housing Strategy for inclusion in future comprehensive LEP review	On Track	A comprehensive review and development of an Affordable Housing Strategy has commenced, with a focus on facilitating affordable housing within the new Croydon and Burwood North masterplanned areas. A report outlining options will be presented to Council in 2026.

Sustainable, integrated transport, infrastructure and networks support population growth and improve liveability and productivity

Plan and manage transport infrastructure to meet current and future community needs

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.34	Traffic & Transport	Investigate traffic hot spots and implement solutions such as pedestrian refuges, roundabouts or traffic calming devices	On Track	Investigations are undertaken for all requests received for traffic calming devices, parking improvements or pedestrian facilities. Additionally locations are identified by staff based upon Centre for Road Safety accident data. Locations where improvements can be made are presented to the Burwood Local Transport Forum. There have been 33 reports presented across the meetings of the Burwood Local Transport Forum held between July 2025 and December 2025.
A.35	Traffic & Transport	Identify black spots based on accident history and where eligible apply for grant funding for facility upgrades	On Track	A review of crash data for local unclassified roads under the care of Council has been undertaken in conjunction with Senior Road Safety Engineer from Transport for NSW. The review did not identify any locations for black spot grant funding which met the requirement of the grant for the 2026/27 financial year. Council will continue to review revised crash data as it becomes available, whilst also funding minor road safety upgrades such as pedestrian crossings, pedestrian refuges, speed cushions and raised thresholds.
A.36	Traffic & Transport	Undertake a review of parking provisions for required development applications	On Track	All major development applications are referred to Council's Traffic Engineers for review. The assessment of these applications includes ensuring that provisions of off-street parking for motor vehicles and bicycles meets Council's Development Control Plan or relevant State Environmental Planning Policy, as well as confirming all relevant standards are met with regards to the design of the parking areas. There were 38 referrals completed in relation to traffic and parking for developments during this period.
A.37	Design & Assets	Undertake design and upgrade of road infrastructure to improve performance, lifecycle and accessibility	On Track	A Capital works program for transport infrastructure was prepared using the recent condition data captured for the transport assets. The Capital works program was imported into smartsheets which Council uses to track and monitor progress of design and delivery of projects. Also preventative maintenance programs have been developed based on condition and are tracked and monitored through smartsheets also.

Places for people cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.38	Design & Assets	Undertake CCTV camera inspections of Council's drainage network	On Track	A Location plan has been prepared for the next 10% CCTV survey of Councils Drainage Network and a Procurement process in progress for contractor engagement. Survey will be completed by June 2026.
A.39	Property	Embed the preventative maintenance program for Council assets and facilities to ensure their ongoing viability	On Track	Council's preventative maintenance program is being progressively implemented across the entire portfolio of building assets. Council has completed a building asset condition assessment and findings are currently under review. Once review findings are finalised, Council's asset management system will be updated accordingly. This work will support the sequencng and prioritisation of Council's preventative maintenance program.

Plan for a city that is safe, accessible and easy to get to and move around in

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.40	City Planning	Review and update Development Contributions and VPA Frameworks to respond to State and Local Planning initiatives which increase density in the LGA	On Track	A Development Contributions Audit has been finalised, with response actions implemented, including a review of contribution payments. A final project plan and resource allocation, along with the commencement of the strategy review, will be initiated in the 2025-26 financial year. A new draft Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) Policy has been prepared and publicly exhibited. This process included an audit and consultation with ICAC and legal advisers to ensure the policy is fit for purpose and complies with current legislative requirements.

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.41	Traffic & Transport	Continue implementation of recommendations of the Traffic & Transport Study	On Track	The Traffic & Transport Study has been finalised in consultation with internal stakeholders and Transport for NSW. The Study will be used to guide Council in its decision making process moving forward with direct input into areas such as the Works Schedules for the Section 7.12 Contributions Plans, WestInvest Projects and the Walking and Cycling Plan. Actions which have commenced include: investigation of alternative cycle routes to and around the Burwood Town Centre; development of an LGA-wide Bike Plan as part of the Walking and Cycling Plan; planning of footpath widening along Burwood Road as part of WestInvest projects; and investigations into required upgrades along Shaftesbury Road to designate this as a primary traffic route for north-south general and freight traffic to divert traffic away from Burwood Road.
A.42	Traffic & Transport	Undertake review of Parking Strategy and continue to investigate parking initiatives to alleviate traffic congestion	On Track	A review of the Burwood Public Parking Strategy has commenced. A Draft Strategy has been prepared and consultation commenced with internal stakeholders. The Strategy will look at a number of actions to improve parking turnover, decrease traffic generated by circulating vehicles searching for parking and address the impact of high parking demand in residential streets. The expansion of the Burwood Town Centre will be considered as the Burwood North masterplan continues to take shape, as well as outcomes of the Croydon Transport Orientated Development area.
A.43	Traffic & Transport	Identify and apply for grant funding to implement actions of Active Transport Study	On Track	The Walking and Cycling Plan has been adopted and combines aspects of Pedestrian Access management Plan and Cycleway Plan to enhance the mode share of sustainable transport and improve connections to nearby residential areas, amenities, and open space. Grant applications were submitted for pedestrian and cycling projects via the Get NSW Active grant.

Places for people cont'd

Public and open spaces are high quality, welcoming, accessible and enjoyable places seamlessly connected with their surroundings

Plan and deliver quality public spaces and open spaces that fulfil and support diverse community needs and lifestyles

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.44	Information Technology	Explore AI and automation opportunities	On Track	<p>During the reporting period, Council commenced a pilot of an AI-enabled DA assessment system aimed at enhancing the evaluation of development application submissions.</p> <p>Council installed two additional People and Vehicle sensors in Ford Lane and Conder Street to strengthen our data collection and support informed decision making.</p> <p>Council is actively exploring further opportunities to leverage AI across various areas of operation to enable faster and more efficient service delivery.</p>
A.45	Property	Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants (WSIG) Project – Burwood Urban Park, Arts and Cultural Centre	On Track	The Culture House project has now entered the construction phase for the works-in-kind component by the developer Holdmark. The contract for these works has been finalised and a superintendent has been appointed. The library car park was closed at the end of September 2025 to enable site decommissioning and establishment activities.
A.46	City Planning	Review and update Burleigh Street Masterplan to identify precinct scope and housing development opportunities	On Track	In accordance with Council's May 2025 resolution, Council has undertaken early engagement with adjoining property owners to the Council-owned site and is in the process of finalising the appointment of consultants to progress the preparation of a precinct plan and a State Significant Development Application (SSDA) for the Burleigh Street Precinct.
A.47	Place Activation & Communication	Deliver place activation projects aligned with Council's Place Management Framework	On Track	Council has advanced the rollout of its Licence to Play framework to support business and community led place activation within our key centres. Council has completed place-enabling works in Ford Lane to transform the space from a serviceway into an inviting, event-ready space. A series of monthly Friday night activations were delivered in Ford Lane, focused on attracting a youth audience.

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.48	Community Life	WSIG Project – EAC redevelopment and installation of Library Pod in Henley Park	On Track	<p>The following work has been completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Initial site investigations and geotechnical testingMarket research, operational assessments and a detailed needs analysisProject scope prioritisation undertaken by Council's Project Control GroupProcurement and engagement of all key technical consultantsDelivery of a comprehensive community engagement program involving more than 1,300 community members to inform concept developmentSpecialist heritage advice and detailed analysis of site constraintsIdentification and assessment of key project risks, including consideration of partial and full facility closure options to manage construction safety, workplace health and safety (WHS) risks for staff and the community, and to minimise project delays and costs <p>The Library Pod is being delivered in parallel with the redevelopment of the EAC, with this element of the work not expected to see significant movement until later in the project cycle.</p>
A.49	Design & Assets	Implement Masterplans for major parks and reserves	Completed	<p>Construction has been completed for the WSIG funded projects in Burwood Park and Woodstock Park, with Henley Park nearing completion.</p> <p>Council submitted a grant application under the Office of Responsible Gambling Club Grants for the upgrade of Walsh Ave Reserve Playground, which was unsuccessful. Council is still proceeding with the project using Council funds, and is in design stage. Council was successful in the Crown Grant submission for \$528k for the Henley Park Accessible seating upgrades, and this project is underway. Cooinoo Reserve upgrades are also underway and Grant Park solar light upgrade has been completed.</p>
A.50	Major Capital Works & Projects	WSIG Project – Henley Park Sports Field upgrade including renewal of turf and spectator seating	On Track	The Majority of works are completed with sub grade, irrigation and turf installed. Drainage is underway and should be completed in early 2026. Remaining works include installation of goal posts and development to the site entry.
A.51	Major Capital Works & Projects	WSIG project – Burwood Park Inclusive Play Space Project – new inclusive play space, Exeloo, BBQs	Completed	All works completed and open to the community including inclusive play area, BBQ area, performance space, chess tables, Exeloo amenities and dog-off leash area.
A.52	Major Capital Works & Projects	WSIG Project – Woodstock Park Sensory Garden Project – new landscaping, removal of playground and new seating	Completed	Works completed, and the park has been open to the public from 10th December 2025



Sustainable & protected environment



We work together to protect our natural resources and assets to ensure that our impact on the environment is reduced so we and future generations can live in a clean and sustainable environment.

Sustainable 6 protected environment cont'd

The urban forest and natural environment are maintained, enhanced and connected

Maintain and increase green spaces, the urban tree canopy, natural shade and enhance biodiversity corridors

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.53	Operations	Undertake scheduled maintenance program for parks, reserves, playgrounds, sports fields and open spaces	On Track	Major Parks scheduled maintenance program for Burwood Park, Henley Park, Wangal Park/ Blair Park and Flockhart Park is ongoing. Scheduled maintenance and upkeep of reserves is ongoing. 6 sports fields - fortnightly cycle; 22 parks/reserves - 3 weekly cycle; 28 open spaces - 3 weekly cycle; 23 playgrounds - weekly cycle
A.54	Design & Assets	Implement the Street Tree Management Strategy	On Track	Council is continuing with its tree planting program and has finalised the planting locations for a further 55 street trees. The selected locations will best increase the urban tree canopy and reduce the overall temperature of the urban environment. Street Tree planting will commence in March 2026 in Autumn. In addition, four trees in pots were installed on Meta St Rail Bridge and a further eight trees were planted at the Burwood Rd/Georges River Rd gateway.



People and infrastructure contribute positively to the environment and respond to climate change

Deliver efficiency and innovation in the use of resources

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.55	City Planning	Implement the 'big moves' identified in the Sustainable Burwood Strategy including new initiatives to reduce, reuse and recycle waste	On Track	Council's focus on building a sustainable Burwood has delivered a range of initiatives aligned with the Sustainable Burwood Strategy. These include the continuation of the Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) trial to reduce landfill waste and the use of Council's Waste App, which provides bin collection reminders and guidance on correct waste sorting. All Council-owned buildings, facilities and street lighting are now powered by 100 per cent renewable energy. Council has also promoted sustainability programs such as GreenPower to encourage household uptake of renewable energy, supported by targeted recycling education through Council's digital channels. In addition, Council promoted and participated in the Smart Energy Expo.
A.56	City Planning	Investigate the provision of vehicle charging stations across the LGA, including the introduction of new planning controls to encourage electric charging infrastructure	On Track	Council currently provides several publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations across the local government area. Over the past six months, additional stations have been approved and installed through an EPA grant. Conditions of consent are also being applied to new developments, requiring the provision of EV charging infrastructure on-site. Planning controls for EV charging stations in public spaces are already incorporated into the State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure and Transport).

Develop strong planning controls to protect and support a green and sustainable environment

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.57	City Planning	Investigate opportunity to develop a Public Spaces Strategy for the LGA	On Track	In the 2025/26 financial year, Council will commence a full review of the Development Contributions Plan and supporting strategies, in line with the Development Contributions Audit and the need for infrastructure to respond to future increases in density. Following the completion of the infrastructure needs strategies, Council will prepare a public domain plan and manual.

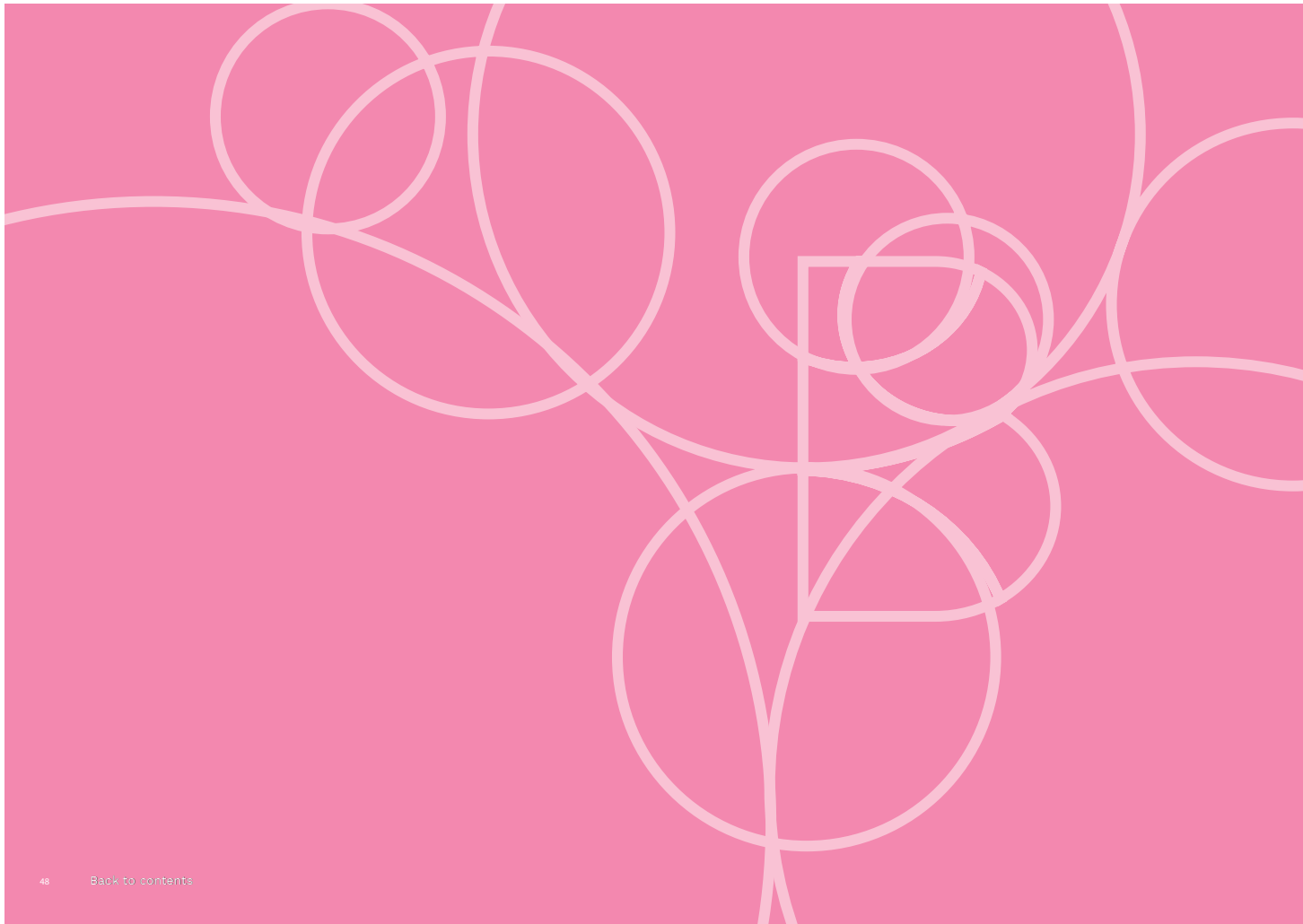
Sustainable 8 protected environment cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.58	Community Safety	Respond to and address complaints relating to building non-compliance	On Track	Council's Community Safety and City Development Team investigated all complaints relating to building development works to ensure that building sites are complying with the regulations.

Improve waste reduction, recycling and re-using practices in homes, workplaces, development sites, public places and Council assets

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.59	City Planning	Evaluate the results of the current FOGO (Food and Garden Organics) trial and investigate service expansion based on evaluation results	On Track	NSW legislation released in early 2025 mandates the rollout of FOGO by 1 July 2030. The trial area is continuing, and options are currently being reviewed. An options report will be presented to Council in 2026.
A.60	Operations	Deliver scheduled domestic kerbside waste and recycling collection service	On Track	Every residential premise is provided with a regular scheduled waste and recycling service. Council collects over 27,000 residential bins each week. Council business waste services have ceased, and businesses now organise private waste collection services.
A.61	Operations	Deliver booked and scheduled household waste collection clean up service	On Track	Council continues to deliver ongoing waste collection clean up services. Over 60 scheduled bulk household collections are provided every week.
A.62	Operations	Deliver litter management / removal service for major parks	On Track	Litter management and removal is provided at Council parks, with over 100 litter bins emptied each day.
A.63	City Planning	Utilise bin audit data to provide information encouraging correct recycling practices	On Track	Bin audit of FOGO bins using EPA funds and bin audit of recycling bins under Envirocom's Waste Education Plan actions has been completed in Q2 FY 2025/2026.





Vibrant city & villages



Our business and entertainment precincts are economically sustainable and prosperous where residents, workers and visitors enjoy diverse retail, dining and entertainment experiences and interesting places that are attractive, active and welcoming.

Vibrant city 8 villages cont'd

A thriving city and centrally located, strategic business and employment hub within Sydney

Promote Burwood as a great place to live, work, visit and invest in

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.64	Place Management & Communication	Develop marketing plan and promote Burwood as a destination	On Track	Council has been working on developing a place-specific brand for the proposed Burwood Special Entertainment Precinct project, aiming to position Burwood as Sydney's Cultural Playground and lifestyle destination. Burwood was also recognised as "Australia's Coolest Neighbourhood" by TimeOut Magazine and has commenced the roll out of a marketing campaign to celebrate the achievement and recognise those who played a part in making it happen through the use of digital campaigns and high impact visuals throughout the City Centre. Work has also commenced on the development of the "Next Stop Burwood" promotional campaign.
A.65	Community Life	Coordinate the Shopfront Improvement and Enforcement Programs	On Track	The program has now opened for applicants and will close March 13th 2026, with successful applicants notified by the end of March. Promotion of the program to occur between now and 13 March 2026.

Facilitate the growth and prosperity of local businesses and target the growth of business sectors and growth industries

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.66	Place Management & Communication	Undertake research and consult with stakeholders to deliver business support programs	On Track	Council has undertaken a number of initiatives to deliver local business support, such as engagement with business to inform the development of the Burwood Special Entertainment Precinct; rollout of the Shopfront Improvement Program; enabling infrastructure as part of the Permit/Plug/Play Program; Licence to Play place activation framework; and projects funded under the Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program. Additionally, Council launched the Burwood Investment Prospectus; undertook research on spend data via the CommBank iQ system to inform projects; engaged with the Burwood Chamber of Commerce on business support initiatives; undertook engagement with over 20 stakeholders to develop relationships and explore partnership opportunities; and delivered the Mayor's Commendation awards to recognise the successes of local businesses.
A.67	Place Management & Communication	Undertake initiatives that support new economic growth in the Burwood North Precinct and Burwood Town Centre	On Track	Council has been advancing the development of a Special Entertainment Precinct within the Burwood Town Centre to support business growth, as well as advancing the assessment process to becoming accredited as a Purple Flag precinct, recognition for the Burwood Town Centre as a centre of excellence in managing its night time economy. Additionally, Council launched a Visitation and Investment Prospectus in November 2025, aimed at promoting Burwood LGA as a place to visit and invest and to stimulate economic growth.

Vibrant city & villages cont'd



Safe, clean and activated streets, centres and public places are enjoyed by people day and night

Develop place planning to activate the CBD, high streets and villages to support local businesses and foster local identity, creativity and culture

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.68	Place Management & Communication	Implement activities or initiatives that enhance Burwood's night time economy	On Track	Council has been working on the development of a Special Entertainment Precinct within the Burwood Town Centre to facilitate a greater uptake of live performance and set a clear and coherent Trading Hours and Sound Emission Framework for the Centre. Council has also undertaken a thorough assessment of the Town Centre, working closely with stakeholders, to achieve Purple Flag accreditation from the NSW Government, recognising Burwood as a safe, vibrant and well managed night time centre.
A.69	Community & Culture	Review Sponsorship Policy	On Track	<p>The Sponsorship Prospectus for 2025/2026 was prepared and promoted via the Participate Burwood platform. To date, Council has secured \$65,000 in sponsorship to support community events and initiatives, including: Ray White Burwood (\$5,000), Burwood Chinatown (\$10,000), Anson Group (\$10,000), Optus (\$15,000) and SunRice (\$25,000),</p> <p>In addition, support was received from Burwood RSL (\$15,500) for several community initiatives.</p> <p>Sponsorship Policy to be developed in 2026.</p>

Vibrant city 8 villages cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.70	Community & Culture	Implement Council's public art program to enhance and foster local identity and activate public spaces	On Track	<p>To date, nine public art projects have been completed and installed under the 2025/26 Public Art Program. This has included the installation of five murals as part of the Ford Lane Transformation Project, complemented by a lighting installation. Together these have helped to bring Ford Lane to life.</p> <p>A Dream Pool Hero Artwork was developed for the re-development of the Enfield Aquatic Centre through a collaborative engagement process with Burwood Girls High School, Burwood Public School and Enfield Public School. The artworks produced will be prominently displayed throughout the lifecycle of the project.</p> <p>A new Culture Connects banner design was developed through a joint collaboration between a First Nations and CALD artists.</p> <p>The Christmas Artworks Program was expanded and installed on shopfront windows across 50 properties in Croydon and Croydon Park.</p>
A.71	City Development	Facilitate the delivery of public art through private development	On Track	<p>Public art and activation are embedded within Council's planning and development processes. All significant developments and eligible hoarding applications are referred to Council's Cultural and Public Arts Producer for advice on public art outcomes. Council has endorsed planning control changes to exempt certain public art from development consent, including street art (wall murals) on private land and public art on footpaths—such as sculptures, murals and pavement installations—subject to Council approval. Amendments to the Development Control Plan also require hydrant and substation infrastructure to be integrated into developments and screened through public art. Additional provisions encourage neon, LED neon and façade lighting within the Burwood CBD and Special Entertainment Precinct to support the 24-hour economy and enhance night-time character.</p>
A.72	Community & Culture	Develop and coordinate diverse arts and cultural programs including the Burwood Art Prize	On Track	<p>The Burwood Art Prize 2026 opened on 12 December 2025, inviting Sydney-based artists to respond to this year's theme I AM HERE. The Burwood Art Prize encourages thoughtful reflections on cultural identity, personal narrative and a celebration of the many voices that shape contemporary multicultural Australia.</p> <p>The 2026 Burwood Art Prize includes a \$20,000 acquisitive award, offering a significant opportunity for artists to have their work recognised and acquired for the Burwood Council Collection, with the support of sponsorship from Anson Group. This year also marks an exciting new partnership with the Museum of Contemporary Art, strengthening the Burwood Art Prize's commitment to supporting artistic practice and expanding professional pathways for emerging and established artists.</p>

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.73	Community & Culture	Implement Creative Burwood Strategy	On Track	<p>Council has delivered several key initiatives including the development of the: Creative Residency Studios in the Library and Community Hub, establishment of a Special Entertainment Precinct in the Burwood Town Centre and the delivery of 17 diverse events and activations that engaged our diverse communities, attracted new audiences and supported the local economy. The transformation of Ford Lane into Sydney's newest hireable performance venue, through the development of five themed murals and its activation with Fridays at Ford Program and the ACDC Tribute activation celebrated Burwood's rich musical history. The Live Music Program was initiated with the Live Music Forum and strategic policy context review. Council also signed a three year MOU with the Museum of Contemporary Art, Australia which will see the fruition of several significant cultural initiatives that will benefit and enhance Burwood's cultural sector.</p>
A.74	Place Management & Communication	WSIG - Burwood Main Street Transformation project	On Track	<p>Following the successful appointment of a Project Management Consultant, the project is now at the planning and design phase. Community consultation has been completed. Milestones and program schedule is currently being reviewed. An agreed procurement strategy has been developed for upcoming tenders.</p>
A.75	Place Management & Communication	WSIG - Deane Street Transformation/Shared Zone Project (Burwood Town Centre revitalisation)	On Track	<p>Following the successful appointment of a Project Management Consultant, the project is now at the planning and design phase. Community consultation has been completed. Milestones and program schedule is currently being reviewed. An agreed procurement strategy has been developed for upcoming tenders.</p>
A.76	Major Capital Works & Projects	WSIG Project – Paisley Road	On Track	<p>Works underway on design of project works. Design is at 50% completion at the end of the reporting period.</p>
A.77	Place Management & Communication	WSIG – Strathfield Place-Making Project (Strathfield Precinct Transformation)	On Track	<p>Following the successful appointment of a Project Management Consultant, the project is now at the planning and design phase. Community consultation has been completed. Milestones and program schedule is currently being reviewed. An agreed procurement strategy has been developed for upcoming tenders.</p>
A.78	Operations	Implement scheduled program of sweeping of streets, Council car parks, commercial and town centres	On Track	<p>Council undertakes daily street sweeping of CBD areas and sweeps every street in the LGA every 3 weeks. Car parks are swept and litter picked at least weekly.</p>

Vibrant city 8 villages cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.79	Operations	Undertake mowing of verges for residents who are pensioners/ with a qualifying medical condition	On Track	Scheduled mowing is planned and programmed for residents who are pensioners with a qualifying medical condition. New residents are also added to the maintenance schedule as approved. Frequency of mowing scheduled is every 8 weeks. 747 nature strips are being mowed every 8-week cycle.

A.80	Operations	Deliver the Safe and Clean Program across key town centre locations	On Track	Safe and Clean Service continues to be implemented in the Burwood CBD and satellite shopping centres. Satellite shopping centres include Strathfield, Croydon, Enfield and Croydon Park Business Districts.
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Plan and deliver infrastructure, services and information which safeguard public health and support community safety

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.81	Community Safety	Carry out a regular program of inspections of development sites to ensure compliance with safe and sustainable practices	On Track	All building sites were patrolled on a daily basis during the financial period. All building sites were monitored and enforced against all provisions to ensure compliance with the legislative requirements - more than 9,050 inspections were conducted.

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.82	Community Safety	Undertake scheduled and responsive inspections of cooling towers, water systems, food, health, beauty and cosmetic premises to identify and respond to risks	On Track	Council's Environmental Health Team inspect and regulate activities under their delegations including food premises, Boarding Houses, Restricted Premises, Underground Petroleum Storage Systems, Cooling Towers, Hair Salons, Beauty Salons and Skin Penetration businesses. These inspections are conducted at least annually and upon any complaints.

A.83	Community Safety	Deliver campaigns and provide initiatives to support the health of food premises	On Track	Council conducts annual inspections of all food businesses in the Local Government Area, and commenced its annual inspection program on 1 July 2025, completing all inspections by early December 2025. Council's Environmental Health Team are conducting follow up inspections to ensure that all identified issues are addressed. Council provides educational information to food businesses to ensure that their knowledge on proper food handling is maintained and implemented. If a food business does not comply with the provisions and after Council has educated them on what is required, more formal action is taken. This has resulted in an increase in 5-star ratings for food business since the focus on proactive enforcement program.
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A.84	Traffic & Transport	Undertake road safety campaigns and run targeted programs and initiatives to promote safety around schools and town centres, pedestrian and cycling safety	On Track	Several Road Safety Programs are run each year with an aim of reducing accidents & educating the public on road rules & behaviour improvements. - #OnTheRoad - social media engagement program with targeted posts each Monday on local areas of concern. - Slow Down campaign - targets streets which have a percentage of recorded accidents which were contributed to speed. - Child Safety Restraint Check program - provides a free installation/check of any child seats by a qualified installer. Child restraint fitting days were run each month from August to June. - Graduated Licensing Scheme - workshops to help new drivers gain the correct knowledge by educating parents & carers who will be accompanying new learner drivers. A workshop was held online in November - Safety Around Schools program - weekly email outreach & school newsletter engagement. Regular visits to local schools' pick up and drop off zones were undertaken to ensure that the road environment surrounding the school is safe.
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Vibrant city & villages cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.85	Community Safety	Provide information and relevant campaigns to raise community awareness of companion animal responsibilities	On Track	Council's Community Safety Team conduct educational programs throughout the year to ensure that all companion animal owners are aware of the provisions relating to responsible pet ownership.
A.86	Community Safety	Undertake compliance inspections on dangerous and restricted dogs	On Track	Dangerous and restricted dog inspections are conducted annually to ensure that they are complying with the provisions. All annual inspections ensure that dog owners have complied with the Companion Animals Act.
A.87	Operations	Deliver services to address illegal dumping and graffiti in public spaces	On Track	Council continues to deliver programs to reduce and manage illegal dumping, graffiti and abandoned trolleys in public spaces. Council has removed over 500 trolleys from public land and investigated over 150 illegal dumping events so far in the reporting period (with material being removed by Council or by the responsible dumper where identified in each illegal dumping event)
A.88	Operations	Maintain and clean the stormwater drainage network and clear blocked pits	On Track	<p>Council's civil maintenance teams are continuously cleaning and maintaining the drainage network. Burwood LGA has been divided into zones for the civil team to inspect and clear blockages and undertake necessary drainage works. Cleaning of pits in high catchment areas is on a monthly schedule.</p> <p>From July to December 2025 - 150 lineal metres of lines were cleaned and 400 pits cleaned/maintained. We also maintain our 4 GPT's on a 6 monthly cycle.</p>





Open & collaborative leadership



A strong local democracy with an actively engaged community who are listened to, respected and who trust in our leaders experiences and interesting places that are attractive, active and welcoming.

Open & collaborative leadership cont'd

A well-informed community active in civic life, local planning and decision making

Deliver strategic, relevant communications which facilitate understanding, dialogue and participation

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.89	Office of General Manager	Utilise a range of channels and new forms of communication to keep our community informed and enhance Council's reach and reputation including information drop-in sessions, online surveys, Mayoral street meetings and focus groups	On Track	<p>During the reporting period, Participate Burwood recorded 21,849 views from 11,519 visitors, with 499 contributions made by 440 contributors. The platform also saw an increase of 31 new followers.</p> <p>A total of 25 e-newsletters were distributed, reaching more than 16,000 people.</p> <p>Council's social media channels continued to perform strongly. Instagram followers increased by 29.9%, while LinkedIn recorded over 100,000 impressions, representing a 3.2% increase. Council's website was also heavily visited, receiving over 493,000 views during the reporting period.</p> <p>Facebook delivered significant growth, with reach increasing by 207% and impressions rising by 195%. The platform also gained 11,277 new followers during the period.</p>

Effective, innovative and collaborative leadership is underpinned by open, transparent and responsible governance

Conduct Council business with transparency, accountability, compliance and probity that ensures community confidence in decision making

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.90	People & Performance	Undertake corporate planning and reporting	On Track	All corporate planning and reporting requirements for the period have been completed, with the Annual Report 2024/2025 submitted to Council in November 2025. The Half Yearly Report July - December 2025 will be submitted to Council in February 2026. Work has also commenced on the preparation of the 2026-27 Operational Plan.
A.91	Governance & Risk	Ensure all public information is accessible and made available in a timely manner	On Track	46 Formal GIPAs and 80 Informal GIPAs were completed. 91% of Formals and 95% of Informals were completed within the required timeframes. A Proactive Release Program and Agency Information Guide are in place from prior years. Reviews are due by June 2026.

Open & collaborative leadership cont'd



Provide opportunity for engagement with the community to inform Council's decision-making

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.92	Office of General Manager	Undertake comprehensive community engagement programs to seek community input on Council projects, operations, initiatives and major decisions	On Track	<p>During the second half of 2025, Burwood Council's Participate Burwood page recorded 21,849 views, 17,068 visits and 11,519 unique visitors, generating 499 contributions from 440 contributions.</p> <p>Traffic to the Participate Burwood page was driven mainly via direct navigation (41.5%) as well as search engines (35%), websites (18%), social media, campaigns and AI assistants.</p> <p>Council continues to deliver on the actions outlined in the Community Engagement Strategy. During the reporting period, the most active projects included the Burwood North Precinct Masterplan, Burwood Culture House, Burwood North Metro Station, Alternate Masterplan in response to Croydon Transport Oriented Development (TOD) and the Burwood Road and Deane Street Transformation.</p> <p>In the reporting period, 993 posts were published on social media (excluding regular stories and accompanying posts to further community engagement), representing a significant increase in the provision of information to the community.</p>
A.93	Community & Culture	Facilitate interagency networks and advisory committees to provide opportunities for collaboration and participation	On Track	<p>Council delivered or supported 18 advisory groups, interagency networks and initiatives.</p> <p>Council's Multicultural, Youth and Disability Inclusion Advisory Groups guided strategies and projects including the review of Burwood Culture House, Enfield Aquatic Centre upgrade, Burwood Streetscapes, All Abilities Playground, and Sensory Garden.</p> <p>The Burwood Region Child and Family Interagency engaged with over 60 sector workers. Key initiatives focused on: early childhood development, coercive control, disability and inclusion service pathways and opportunities to connect new parents with local services.</p> <p>Council also led or contributed to regional networks on multiculturalism, mental health, dementia, elder abuse and disability employment.</p>
A.94	Finance	Comply with financial management responsibilities to promote transparency and accountability	On Track	<p>Council have commenced the preparation of the 2026-27 annual budget along with the Long-Term Financial Plan.</p> <p>Community engagement will occur early 2026 when the budget goes on exhibition.</p>

Open & collaborative leadership cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.95	Finance	Implement and monitor appropriate investment strategies and prepare monthly investment reports	On Track	<p>Council has developed an Investment Strategy and Investment Policy through a third-party Investment Advisor which are reviewed regularly.</p> <p>Council invests surplus funds with various financial institutions during the year. The invested funds have been receiving at least 0.25 basis points above the RBA official rate at the time of investing. Council staff ensured that the invested funds are secure financial instruments.</p> <p>Staff ensured that relevant parties were made aware of invested funds through a monthly report tabled at Council meetings in accordance with legislative requirements.</p>
A.96	Property	Manage Council's property portfolio to optimise financial returns from Council owned properties	On Track	<p>Council acquired two additional strategic landholdings in June 2025—31 and 33 Burwood Road, Burwood. This purchase represents a significant strategic milestone, securing high-value assets in the heart of the Burwood North Precinct. A leasing campaign for the properties has commenced, with active discussions currently underway with prospective tenants. Aside from these new properties, the broader property portfolio reached full occupancy at the start of this reporting period.</p>
A.97	Property	Undertake a Comprehensive Property Portfolio Review & Optimisation Program	Completed	<p>A comprehensive review of Council's property portfolio was completed, with findings reported to Council in July 2025. The review identified opportunities to further optimise the portfolio. Council identified these opportunities as short, medium or long-term, providing a clear implementation pathway aligned with market conditions and development readiness.</p> <p>The strategic retention of high-revenue investment properties, together with the recent acquisitions of 95 Burwood Road and 31-33 Burwood Road, positions Council strongly for the forthcoming Burwood North Precinct transformation and continued growth of the Burwood Town Centre. Any divestment or acquisition proposals arising from the review will be reported back to Council for consideration at the appropriate time, ensuring proper governance and community consultation.</p>
A.98	Governance & Risk	Sustain the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) to provide independent oversight and support continuous improvement	On Track	<p>Three ARIC meetings held, with all business conducted in accordance with ARIC Charter and OLG Guidelines.</p>

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.99	Governance & Risk	Fully embed new internal audit function arrangements as per Internal Audit Charter	On Track	<p>Internal Audit Charter and Strategic Internal Audit Plan in place and endorsed by Council and ARIC. Two internal audits completed.</p>
A.100	Governance & Risk	Develop a Records Management Strategy based on insights from Records Management Assessment Tool analysis	On Track	<p>The Records Management Assessment Tool (RMAT) is a self-assessment tool that allows public offices to assess the maturity of their records and information management practices. The 2026 RMAT has been received by Council from NSW State Records and commencement of the assessment is scheduled for early 2026. Council is well positioned for an improved audit result compared to previous years.</p>
A.101	Governance & Risk	Records digitisation program refreshed and continuously improved in conjunction with management of commercial off-site storage arrangements	On Track	<p>In July 2025, Council reviewed and refreshed the Records Digitisation Program, which includes establishing a contract for Digitisation services.</p> <p>Council partnered with Southern Sydney Region Of Councils (SSROC) to tender as a group for digitisation services and ensure optimum value for money through economies of scale. The tender selection is due to be finalised in January 2026 and Council will then commence active engagement of Digitisation services.</p>
A.102	Governance & Risk	Maintain, enhance and embed Council's governance, risk and compliance frameworks to support compliance and good governance	On Track	<p>The Risk Management Framework is up-to-date, and training programs will be rolled out in 2026.</p> <p>Council will go to market in early 2026 for review and testing assistance with Business Continuity Planning for Conder Street.</p> <p>The new Policy Framework and Procedures are at draft stage and will be presented to the Executive in early 2026.</p> <p>Critical policies have been reviewed or are in the final stages of review, and a program is in place to assess and treat the remainder.</p> <p>Governance and Risk Management information system demos took place over the period and Council is preparing to test the market in early 2026 for this software.</p>

Open & collaborative leadership cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.103	Governance & Risk	Improve the management of insurance risks, including incidents and claims	On Track	Claim lodgement processes were reviewed during the period. Internally reported incidents are now lodged and workflowed through Council's newly implemented Work Health and Safety system. Monitoring and reporting of all claims activities are now captured on the portal of Council's insurer, Civic Risk Mutual, reducing duplication and manual tracking. Preparation is underway for internal and external education activities on claims and related insurance matters to be launched in early 2026.
A.104	Procurement	Undertake internal procurement audits and spot checks to monitor efficiency and compliance	On Track	Six monthly procurement audits have been carried out over the period.
A.105	Governance & Risk	Deliver a progressive and accountable framework to support the elected body of Council and individual councillors	On Track	Meetings held and papers published as required. Councillor attendance at professional development events coordinated as required. Councillor Professional Development Policy and related support program currently under review.
A.106	City Development	Deliver a progressive and accountable framework to support the Burwood Local Planning Panel	On Track	The Burwood Local Planning Panel has met six times between July and December 2025 and considered 10 Development Application and two Planning proposals whilst achieving 100% compliance with Ministerial directions.
A.107	Procurement	Carry out procurement training including refresher training to ensure Council's procurement activities are efficient and effective	On Track	All new staff with Procurement responsibilities were trained during the period. Council has commenced the creation of new procurement knowledge management content which will further assist staff to carry out procurement activities.

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.108	Information Technology	Implement Cyber Security Mitigation	Completed	Council has adopted cyber security related Corporate Practices to ensure that a robust and comprehensive cyber security framework is maintained. Council continues to regularly deliver Cyber Security Awareness Training to staff, resulting in significant improvements in the identification of phishing attempts. Council has implemented all required controls under the ACSC Essential 8 Maturity Level 1 framework. Following the successful implementation of these controls, Burwood Council has been assessed and confirmed as compliant with Essential 8 Maturity Level 1. Council is working closely with its suppliers to assess their cyber security and strengthen their security practices where necessary, with the aim to further reduce the risk of supply-chain attacks.

Deliver innovation and excellence in customer experience and service delivery

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.109	Customer Experience & Business Improvement	Ensure Council service standards reflect community expectations and customers are attended to in line with service standards	On Track	During the period from 1 July 2025 to 19 December 2025, 701 customers were served at the Customer Service counter, with 82.31% being served within three minutes. The number of calls handled by Customer Service was 12,460, with 81.2% answered in less than 40 seconds. Customer Service handled 314 Web Chats, responded to 2,983 emails and delivered the Call Centre Experience to 18 new staff during the period.
A.110	Customer Experience & Business Improvement	Monitor and report on Customer Feedback Program to track real-time satisfaction with Council services including Enfield Aquatic Centre	On Track	Customer feedback devices, a feedback mechanism on staff email signatures and customer feedback surveys following incoming phone calls and WebChats through CXone to Council, provides an ongoing voice for the customer and a benchmark for Council to measure customer experience. During the period of 1 July 2025 to 19 December 2025, Council received an overall Customer Experience Score (CX) of 8.1 based on 5,869 ratings across the organisation.
A.111	Customer Experience & Business Improvement	Conduct Mystery Shopping Program across Council	Completed	A comprehensive Mystery Shopping Program was conducted, with a total of 110 mystery shopping interactions completed across Council. This resulted in an average performance score of 91% for phone calls and 96% for in-person interactions

Open & collaborative leadership cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.112	Customer Experience & Business Improvement	Deliver pop up Customer Experience stalls to reach customers who do not ordinarily interact with Council and increase knowledge of Council services	On Track	Council's Mobile Customer Service Team delivered three Customer Service pop-up stalls at various locations including Deane Street, Railway Square and the Greek Street Fair. The team assisted customers with payments, clean up bookings, E-Permits and general enquiries.
A.113	Information Technology	Implement digital customer experience enhancements	On Track	<p>Council introduced a new contact centre solution at the Enfield Aquatic Centre (EAC). A feedback management module has also been implemented for the Customer Service and EAC contact centres, allowing callers to provide feedback, helping us ensure our services continue to meet the needs and expectations of our community.</p> <p>Council additionally implemented a new system enabling ratepayers to receive rates notices via email rather than by post.</p>
A.114	Information Technology	Introduce automation to improve customer response times and reduce human error	On Track	<p>During the reporting period, Council implemented several new applications to improve customer response times for staff and the community; enhance cyber security; and increase efficiency in service delivery. For internal staff, Council introduced a WHS solution with automated workflows, redesigned processes within the existing ERP system, and deployed B2B payment protection software. These initiatives have eliminated paper-based forms and manual tasks, thereby streamlining internal processes.</p> <p>Council has provided prompt automated responses to Before You Dig Australia (BYDA) enquiries.</p>
A.115	Customer Experience & Business Improvement	Implement the Customer Experience Strategy	On Track	The Customer Experience Strategy 2024 - 2027 was developed through an extensive process of research, data analysis, customer feedback and community engagement. During the period, eight actions have been completed in the Year 3 action plan, including the implementation of an organisation-wide Customer Mindset Program, that focuses on proactive and positive outcomes.

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.116	Customer Experience & Business Improvement	Implement service review program as per the schedule to deliver improved services and efficiencies	On Track	<p>Council conducted an independent review of its Community Programs, focusing on governance, risk, effectiveness and opportunities for improvement. The review examined financial efficiency, community benefits, strategic alignment, facility usage, delivery models and good practice benchmarking.</p> <p>Council completed a review of major event bookings at Burwood Park and introduced a new Expressions of Interest (EOI) process for the 2026 program. The EOI process ran in November and December 2025, included two information sessions, and received 11 submissions from new and returning organisers.</p> <p>A review of the City Strategy structure has been completed and implemented on 4 December 2025 to increase the strategic planning capacity, along with continuing to deliver operational business functions and projects. The introduction of a dedicated Sustainability and Education Officer role, will focus on environmental policy, sustainability initiatives, FOGO and broad stakeholder engagement.</p>
A.117	Procurement	Review and streamline procurement business processes, forms and templates	On Track	Business processes related to internal procurement audits have been reviewed, and in August 2025, Council created a new Procurement Audit Register, along with all relevant documentation for the conduct of audits.
A.118	Information Technology	Rationalise and integrate the information systems used in the delivery of Council services	On Track	As part of the ERP implementation project, development and testing of additional ERP modules is underway, with all modules scheduled to transition to the new platform by the end of June. This project represents a significant milestone in the adoption of a unified Software as a Service (SaaS) ecosystem, which will reduce system duplication, improve interoperability, and ensure seamless integration with existing platforms, such as Council's document management system, asset management system, GIS systems, and the NSW Planning Portal.

Open & collaborative leadership cont'd

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.119	Information Technology	Maintain Council's IT Hardware to support the effective delivery of Council services	On Track	<p>During the reporting period, Council established an up-to-date Asset Register and corresponding business processes to support the effective management of this system. This has enabled clear and efficient assessment of existing Council hardware and the identification of devices requiring replacement in accordance with Council's Device Management Corporate Practice.</p> <p>Council is progressing as planned with an annual Technology Device Refresh project, which is expected to be completed in early 2026. The project is set to ensure that all IT equipment in use at Council is current and fit for purpose.</p> <p>Within Council's Community Hub at 2 Conder St, Burwood, Council has introduced two new bookable meeting spaces equipped with modern audio-visual systems and is currently exploring opportunities to upgrade audio-visual capabilities in additional Council facilities.</p>
A.120	Information Technology	Upgrade systems and applications to support the effective delivery of Council services	On Track	<p>During the reporting period, Council upgraded all staff and public computers to the latest supported operating systems, along with all applications in use. Regular updates have been applied across all devices through effective endpoint management using Microsoft Intune.</p> <p>Council has also introduced several new applications to improve workflows and enhance security while supporting efficient service delivery. In addition, Council is assessing existing applications and processes to identify opportunities for more effective solutions that further strengthen service delivery.</p>
A.121	Information Technology	Improve access to information by expanding the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS)	Completed	<p>Council upgraded its online mapping system to the current version and implemented additional integrations with the asset management system. The system's functionality was further enhanced through the addition of new data layers and Council provided additional training to staff to support effective use of the platform. In addition, Council reviewed and updated GIS information available to the community via the interactive maps on the Council website, ensuring currency and accessibility.</p>

Build and maintain strong partnerships and advocate on behalf of the community

Action Code	Responsible Officer Unit	Action	Status	Comments
A.122	People & Performance	Seek partnership or funding opportunities that address Council and community needs	On Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Council successfully executed a \$500,000 funding agreement with Transport NSW as part of the Permit Plug Play Program for the delivery of enabling infrastructure to support street-based events day and night. The project is now complete, unlocking more walkable, safe, and activated laneways across the City Centre.Council also secured \$195,000 in funding as part of the Special Entertainment Precinct Kickstarter Program for related strategic planning activities, the preparation of acoustic criteria and community engagement.Following a successful application to the State Government, Council has been selected to participate in the Purple Flag Program, an international accreditation which recognises precincts that achieve high standards of excellence in managing their night-time economy.Council also announced the development of the Green Key Initiative, a program that enables local operators to contribute/invest in Burwood's urban greening efforts.
A.123	City Planning	Work with SSROC to champion new sustainable technologies, policies and procedures	On Track	<p>Continued and ongoing involvement with SSROC working groups included the Planning Managers Group, the Environmental Planners Group and the EV collaboration group.</p>
A.124	People & Performance	Implement Year 1 actions of the Workforce Management Plan	Completed	<p>Actions completed in the period include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Annual Training Plan developedReview of recruitment, on-boarding and induction practices were undertaken with implementation commencedSix Apprentices/Trainees/Cadets were engaged with support from the State Government's Fresh Start Grant ProgramTrial commenced for electronic timesheetsWork experience program supportedLeadership training provided to relevant employees.Launch of online performance review system completedReview and update of Council's Work Health and Safety Management System completed with implementation commencedNew Online safety system Besafe launchedSuccessful external safety audit undertaken



Follow Council @BurwoodCouncil
www.burwood.nsw.gov.au

2 Conder St, Burwood NSW 2134
PO Box 240 Burwood NSW 1805

P 02 9911 9911
E council@burwood.nsw.gov.au





Burwood Design Review Panel Meeting Minutes & Recommendations

Item	Liveability Improvements for Residential Flat Buildings (RFBs) within Burwood LGA
Proposal Description:	<p>Amendments to DCP provisions applying to Parts 3 & 4 of Burwood DCP to enhance residential amenity and liveability through improved design outcomes.</p> <p>Key elements of the amendment relate to the following:</p> <p>Communal and open space needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for specific communal spaces to improve social amenity • Activation of roof and podium level to tackle future open space needs of the LGA <p>Design elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider corridor widths to improve internal circulation, amenity and accessibility. • End of Trip Facilities • Streetscape presentation • Façade lighting and Night -time Activation <p>Sustainability Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car share parking facilities to encourage reduced car ownership and support sustainable mobility. • Measures to improve climate resilience and resource efficiency, ensuring buildings are adaptable and environmentally responsible; and • Electric vehicle (EV) readiness across the LGA, facilitating the transition to low-emission transport options.
Meeting Date:	25 November 2025
Panel Members:	<p>Paul Walter, – chair / architect and urban designer.</p> <p>Jill Woodley- Panel member/ architect and urban designer</p> <p>Stephen Pearse – Panel member / architect</p>
Apologies:	Nil
Council Staff:	<p>Soodeh Mohammadi (Executive Urban Designer)</p> <p>Julian Sciarone (Executive Development Planner)</p> <p>Alastair Sim (Senior Development Planner)</p>
Presenter	Amita Maharjan (Executive Strategic Planner)



Background:

Mayoral Minute (Item MM2/25) of 25 March 2025

At its meeting on 25 March 2025, Council endorsed a Mayoral Minute to review local planning controls with the intent of introducing new requirements for apartment developments, including residential flat buildings and shop-top housing to enhance residential liveability and amenity.

Council meeting 28 October 2025

A report was presented to Council on 28 Oct. 2025 as a response to the Mayoral Minutes which considered integration of certain design elements for future Apartment developments in order to address improved residential liveability and amenity.

The council report briefly discusses the intent of the proposed DCP amendments, with the detailed DCP provisions included in Attachment 1 of the report.

Discussion & Recommendations:

1. Introduction & Purpose of Discussion

Council officers introduced the draft Liveability DCP amendments, seeking feedback on:

- Use of rooftop spaces
- Communal/resident amenities
- Corridor width and circulation quality
- Incentives vs mandates
- Integration with design excellence processes
- Mechanisms to embed these principles in DCP/LEP frameworks

2. Rooftop Use and Access

2.1 Residential vs Public Access

- Panel queried whether the DCP intends rooftops to be **private communal spaces** or also **publicly accessible**.
- Council clarified that **current focus is resident-only use**.
- Public access would trigger:
 - Separate lift access
 - Security controls
 - Higher fire safety requirements
- Rooftop public access is feasible only in certain mixed-use developments (e.g., podium levels, commercial settings).



2.2 Operational Considerations

- Strata management is critical; large communal rooms often fail due to poor maintenance, whereas smaller purpose-built spaces (e.g., music rooms) are more successful.
- A **Management Plan** will be required with DA submissions.

2.3 Encouraging Rooftop Activation

- Rooftops are underutilised in Burwood due to strict height controls.
- Panel recommended allowing specific rooftop elements to **breach height limits**, such as:
 - Lift overruns
 - Pergolas / shade structures
 - Planter boxes
 - Parapets / safety rails
- These can be permitted where **non-habitable** and **not counted as GFA**.

2.4 Balancing Controls with Market Drivers

- Developers may include rooftop amenities (e.g., pickleball, outdoor kitchens) when they see marketing value.
- Panel advised:
 - **Allow flexibility but avoid mandating specific uses**, as the market will determine feasibility.
 - Early adopters will set trends; not all amenities will remain viable.

2.5 Mandatory Elements Under Consideration

Council is considering requiring the following for buildings **≥60 apartments**:

- Rooftop communal space
- Music/practice room
- Outdoor communal exercise area

Panel cautioned that:

- Mandates may add cost and may not always suit the site or market;
- Consider whether **incentives** are more appropriate than rigid requirements.

3. Ground Floor Communal Spaces

- Ground level is the preferred location for communal areas, but many infill sites lack consolidated ground-floor open space due to setbacks.
- Rooftops may therefore become the primary opportunity for meaningful communal spaces.
- Ground floor should still accommodate:



- Lobby seating
 - Parcel delivery/storage solutions
 - Co-working or waiting areas
- Encouragement should be paired with a **site-responsive approach**, acknowledging constrained lots.

4. Corridor Widths and Circulation Spaces

4.1 Minimum Width

- General agreement that **1.5m** minimum corridor width is appropriate and necessary for:
 - Furniture movement
 - Accessibility
 - Occasional social interaction

4.2 GFA Implications

- Panel expressed concern with proposals to **exclude wider corridors from GFA**:
 - Would increase overall building bulk
 - Developers may exploit the provision
 - Construction costs passed on to buyers
- Recommendation:
 - Retain 1.5m as a minimum,
 - Avoid broad GFA exemptions for circulation.

4.3 Quality Over Width

Panel emphasised design quality rather than numerical increases:

- Natural light to corridors
 - Local widening near lift lobbies for waiting/socialising
 - Variation in corridor alignment
 - Recessed entries to individual units
 - Good materials and colour selection
- These are already supported by ADG and can be reinforced in the DCP.

5. Incentives vs Mandates

Panel reiterated:

- **Flexibility is preferred** to strict mandating of amenities.



- Burwood should identify its liveability objectives clearly, then allow developers to propose how they will achieve them.
- Mandatory lists risk:
 - Stifling design response
 - Increasing costs
 - Leading to unused or poorly maintained spaces
- Instead, articulate **desired outcomes**, with examples and precedents.

6. Design Excellence & Competitions

6.1 Existing and Proposed Framework

- Current design excellence requirements apply mainly in E1 and MU1 zones and in certain master plan areas (e.g., Croydon, Burwood North).
- Proposed LEP amendment will introduce **design competitions** for buildings above certain height thresholds (e.g., 16 storeys / 55m).

6.2 Panel Advice

- Design excellence is essential to achieving high quality communal and liveability outcomes.
- Competitions can drive architectural innovation but:
 - Are costly for applicants
 - Introduce uncertainty
- Alternatives used by City of Sydney (e.g., rigorous multi-stage DRP review in lieu of a public competition) could be explored.

6.3 Ensuring Design Integrity

- The design intent must be protected through:
 - Ongoing design review
 - Conditions requiring the winning architect to stay involved through documentation
- Otherwise, cost-cutting post-DA undermines outcomes.

7. Embedding Outcomes in DCP and LEP

- Panel encouraged Council to:
 - Clarify how DCP liveability objectives relate to **design excellence criteria**.
 - Possibly integrate rooftop, communal and circulation quality elements within a broader design excellence framework.



- Some adjustments may require LEP changes, others can sit within the DCP.

8. Precedents and Examples

- Panel supported including **illustrative examples** demonstrating:
 - High quality circulation
 - Effective communal spaces
 - Rooftop designs with shade and planting
- Examples must be selected carefully and be contextually appropriate.

9. Future Amendments & Broader DCP Review

- Council intends to undertake a **holistic DCP review in 2026–27**, which is likely to cover review of design elements including but not limited to the following:
 - Lift / lobby design
 - Parking and car-share
 - Traffic network impacts
 - Communal space standards
- Liveability Clause amendments are an **interim urgent update** ahead of the larger review.

Conclusion:

The DRP panel members expressed general support for the intent of the Liveability Clause, with key guidance:

Panel Endorses:

- Encouraging activation of rooftop spaces
- Allowing height exemptions for shade structures, overruns, parapets
- Minimum 1.5m corridors
- Requiring management plans for communal facilities
- Prioritising ground-floor communal activation where feasible

Panel Cautions:

- Avoid mandating too many specific amenities
- Avoid broad GFA incentives for wider corridors



- Be mindful of operational and maintenance challenges
- Ensure design integrity past DA approval

Panel Recommends:

- Use DCP language that emphasises **desired outcomes**, not prescriptive rules
- Integrate objectives with design excellence criteria
- Provide clear illustrated examples of best practice
- Consult Government Architect's Office for templates and competition guidance

11. Next Steps

- Council to refine the DCP amendment wording based on feedback.
- Consider where incentives, flexibility, and performance-based controls are more appropriate than mandates.
- Confirm interaction between DCP Liveability Clause and LEP design excellence requirements.
- Prepare and include supporting diagrams/examples
- Advise DRP on the progress at a later stage.

Note:

Orange text- new addition to exhibited draft DCP following the DRP advice

~~Strikethrough text~~ – proposed deletion of information following advice from Burwood Design Review Panel

DCP Amendment – Liveability Improvements to Apartment Developments

The following controls are recommended to be inserted in Parts 3 and 4 of the Burwood Development Control Plan (BDCP).

A) Communal Facilities

ACTIVATED ROOFTOP AND PODIUM COMMUNAL OPEN SPACE

Burwood Council is embracing bold and forward-thinking approaches to enhance liveability in high-density apartment living by encouraging the inclusion of activated communal open spaces, preferably on rooftops and podium levels. These areas may incorporate a range of activities such as music and creative spaces for children, breakout or study areas for students and professionals, exercise and wellness facilities, sports activities such as basketball court or even rooftop swimming pools.



Figure 1: Rooftop activation example - Konditaget Lùders, Copenhagen, Denmark (Source: Google images)

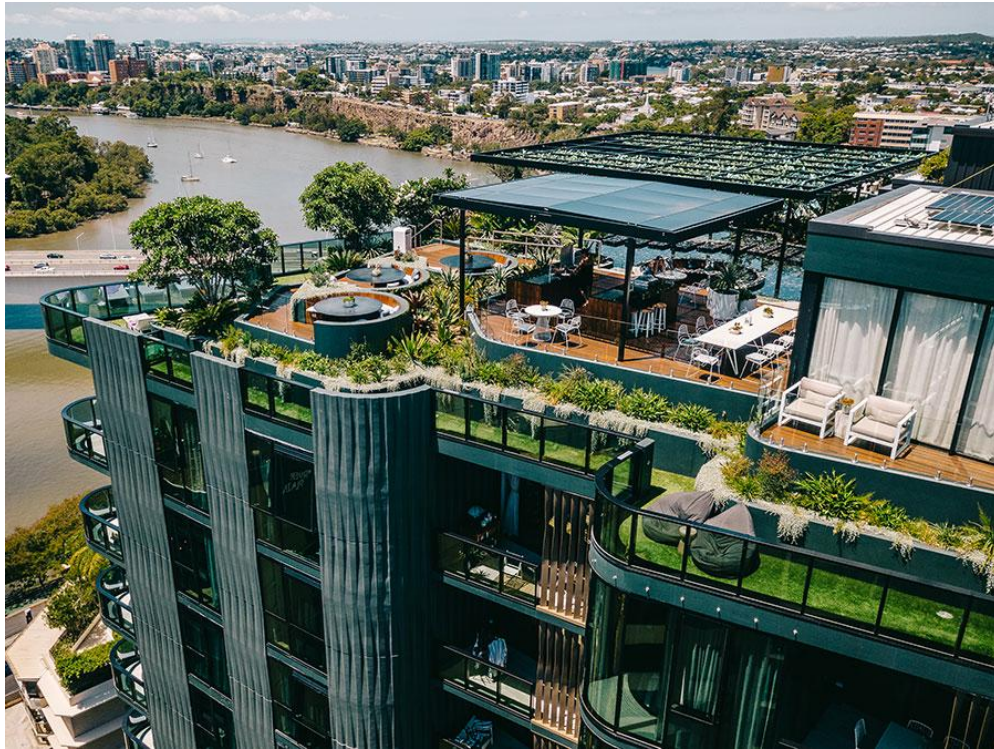


Figure 2: Rooftop activation example – Brisbane, Australia (Source: Google images)

As the demand for apartment living continues to rise across the Burwood LGA, these spaces are essential to support recreation, social connection, and wellbeing where access to ground-level open space is limited.

Developments are encouraged to adopt innovative communal space designs that respond to the unique needs and lifestyles of their residents. Council places particular emphasis on providing music and creative rooms for children, breakout or study areas for students and professionals, and exercise/wellness facilities as part of these activated spaces. Alternative forms of communal activation that align with the intent of enhancing liveability and social interaction will also be considered on their individual merit, having regard to their design quality, functionality, and overall contribution to community life and wellbeing.

The design of activated rooftop and podium communal spaces is expected to demonstrate design excellence consistent with the Burwood LEP Design Excellence Clause 6.5. These spaces should be conceived as integral elements of the overall architectural, landscape and urban design of a development, rather than as ancillary or residual areas. High-quality design outcomes should be achieved through careful consideration of building form, materials, landscape integration, circulation, accessibility, environmental performance and long-term functionality. Well-designed rooftop and podium communal spaces can enhance residential amenity, contribute to urban greening and climate resilience, and reinforce positive relationships between private development and the public and private domain, supporting Council's broader objectives for high-quality, liveable and well-designed apartment development.



Figure 3: Rooftop activation example - Konditaget Lüders, Copenhagen, Denmark (Source: Google images)



Figure 4: Rooftop activation example - Azabu Gardens residential development, Tokyo, Japan (Source: Google images)



Figure 5: Rooftop activation example – Melbourne, Australia

Objectives

- O1** To ensure rooftop and podium communal open spaces or residential accommodation are high-quality, accessible, and actively used recreational and social areas that enhance community interaction and provide meaningful outdoor opportunities in a high-density environment where ground-level open space is limited.
- O2** To respond to the growing demand for open space from increasing apartment development by requiring the activation of rooftop and podium communal areas through design that promotes liveability, urban greening, and climate resilience, while fostering a vibrant sense of community and wellbeing for all residents.
- O3** To encourage the inclusion of diverse activities within activated rooftop and podium spaces, such as, breakout areas for students/professionals, and exercise or wellness facilities, music or creative studios etc that support social connection, creative expression, and healthy living in high-density residential environments.
- O4** To ensure that the design of activated rooftop and podium communal spaces demonstrates design excellence consistent with the requirements of the Burwood LEP Design Excellence Clause 6.5, by achieving a high standard of architectural, landscape and urban design, integrating these spaces with the overall building form and circulation, and ensuring they contribute positively to residential amenity, environmental performance, and the quality of both the public and private domain.



Figure 6: Rooftop activation example – Melbourne, Australia (Source: Google images)

Controls

- P1** Building rooftops including podiums that are designated communal open space must be designed to meet the performance requirements of the National Construction Code (Building Code of Australia) NCC.
- P2** Any proposed communal open space for residential accommodation located on the building podium and/or rooftop is to:
- a) Be consolidated into a useable area with a minimum width of 6m and a minimum area of 36m².
 - b) Be located so that solar access is provided for users of the communal open space between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm on 21 June.
 - c) Be designed to a high quality with universal access and allow for landscaping, seating and safety to the users.
 - d) Be structurally sound and have adequately draining soil base to support healthy plant growth.
 - e) Have no direct sightlines to the habitable room windows and private open space of the adjoining and on-site residences.
 - f) Not result in unreasonable noise impacts on the adjoining residences, justified in the Management Plan.
 - g) Any shading devices, privacy screens and planters should not adversely increase the visual bulk of the building.

- h) Any stairway and associated roof should not detract from the architectural character of the building, and be positioned to minimise direct and oblique views from the street.
- i) The provision of landscape planting on the roof (green roof) must be designed by a qualified landscape architect or designer with details shown on a landscape plan.
- j) An Acoustic Report and Management Plan is required to be submitted with a Development Application to detail planting schedule, maintenance plan and usage hours to address potential noise concerns.

P3 Council encourages activation of roof space via creative uses including but not limited to the following:

- a) Social and recreational areas – seating, BBQs, dining, and relaxation zones including rooftop swimming pools;
- b) Health and wellbeing spaces – outdoor fitness, yoga, gym and walking loops;

Note: Outdoor fitness facilities provided for the use of building occupants, such as basketball or tennis courts etc, must be appropriately fenced or mesh-enclosed to prevent sports equipment from leaving the designated play area and to ensure safety and amenity for all residents and neighbouring properties **as required under NCC provisions**.
- c) Family-friendly play areas – safe, shaded spaces for children and families.
- d) Productive and community gardens – shared planting beds and composting zones;
- e) Flexible communal spaces – adaptable areas for co-working, study, or small gatherings.
- f) Creative and cultural uses within the areas mapped as the Burwood Town Centre under the BLEP 2012, including spaces with separate access from residential uses, such as for art displays, small performances, community events, and small-scale outdoor cinema or projection walls.

ACTIVE COMMUNAL OPEN SPACES – Music/Creative Space

Controls

- P4P4** To ensure when provided, music/creative space is designed to minimise noise, maximise amenity, and cater to diverse household needs taking into consideration the following requirements:
- a) Development comprising more than 60 dwellings is **encouraged** to provide at least one dedicated multipurpose communal room suitable for children’s music lessons and creative activities.
 - b) Music practice rooms are to be easily accessible to all residents within the development, preferably at the ground floor level or other common area; and of a size that can support their intended function.

- c) Where a dedicated children's music room cannot be accommodated at ground level, it may be provided within the rooftop communal area, provided the space is appropriately designed and acoustically treated to prevent noise transfer and maintain residential amenity.
- d) Music practice rooms are to be appropriately sound proofed so as not to disturb adjoining building occupants when in use.
- e) An Acoustic Report and Management Plan is required to be submitted with a Development Application to detail usage hours to address potential noise concerns.



Figure 7: Example of Breakout area (Source: Google images)

Controls

P1 P5 Development within Residential Accommodation comprising more than 60 dwellings is encouraged to provide at least one communal co-working or study area, designed to accommodate students and residents working from home.

P2P6 When provided, breakout areas must ensure they:

- Are accessible to all residents;
- Incorporate natural light and ventilation;
- Provide appropriate furnishings, power outlets, and digital connectivity; and
- Are located to minimise noise conflicts with adjoining dwellings.

ACTIVE COMMUNAL OPEN SPACES - Exercise Facilities

Controls

P1 P7 Development within Residential Accommodation comprising more than 60 dwellings is encouraged to provide on-site exercise facilities such as gyms, fitness studios, or active recreation spaces.

P2P8 When provided, exercise facilities must ensure they:

- Are designed with appropriate acoustic treatment to prevent noise transfer;
- Provide adequate ventilation and natural light; and
- Are accessible to all residents.
- **P3P7** Are accompanied by an Acoustic Report and Management Plan is required to be submitted with a Development Application to detail usage hours to address potential noise concerns.

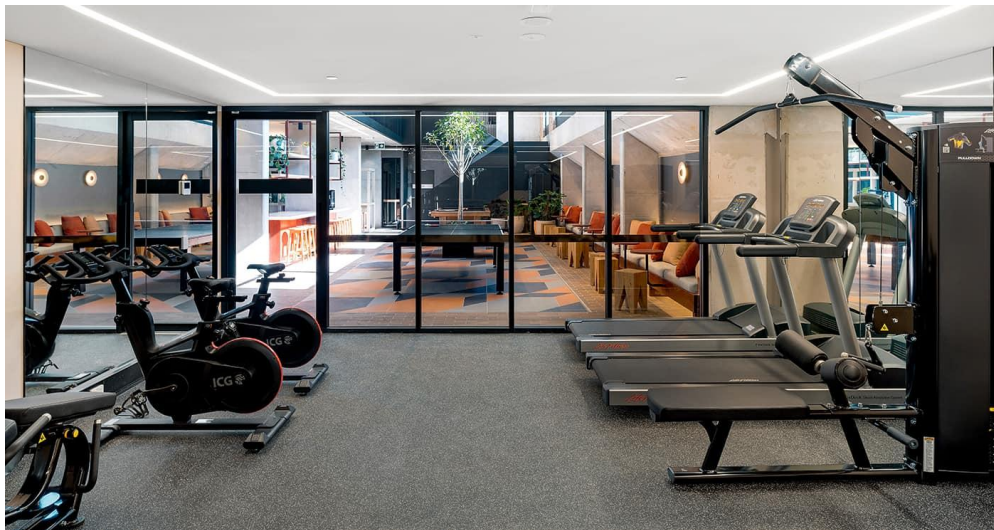


Figure 8: Example of on-site exercise facility (Source: Google images)

END OF TRIP AMENITIES

Objectives

- O1** To encourage alternatives to private motor vehicle use and support sustainable transport, such as public transport, walking or cycling.
- O2** To encourage active and healthy lifestyles, sustainable transport choices, and opportunities for social connection within apartment developments.

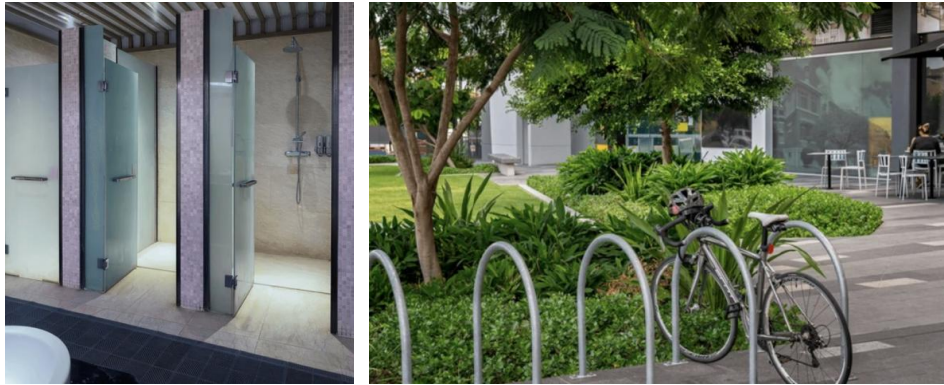


Figure 9: End of Trip facilities (Source: Google images)

Controls

- P1** Mixed use and Commercial development must provide end-of-trip amenities on site, including:
- a) Secure, accessible bicycle parking;
 - b) Lockers; and
 - c) Shower and change facilities, must be accessible, secure, unisex and ventilated consistent with the requirements of National Construction Code (NCC).
- P2** The end of trip amenities must be safe, well-lit, signposted, weather protected and secure for the users of the development to meet the requirement of NCC.
- P3** End-of-trip amenities are to be conveniently located near building entries or communal circulation areas, and not to be located on through-site link land and footpath widening areas.
- P4** Bicycle storage must be located with good passive surveillance and direct, level or ramped access to the primary pedestrian entry or street. Basement bike parking should be on the uppermost basement level adjacent to pedestrian exits. Visitor bicycle parking must be provided on grade close to the main entrance. The path from bike parking to the entry must be a minimum clear width of 1.5 m.

B) Building Design

CORRIDORS AND INTERNAL CIRCULATION

Objectives

- O1** To create safe and pleasant spaces for circulation of residents and visitors and their possessions.
- O2** To facilitate good apartment layout with optimal environmental performance.
- O3** To contribute positively to the built form and façade articulation.



Figure 10: Internal circulation and corridor widths, Source: ADG

Controls

- P1** Internal corridors must provide a clear width of 1.5 m for single-direction circulation and 1.8 m where two-way passing is expected (or where corridors serve 8 or more units). Where bicycle circulation or furniture movement is likely, allow 1.5 m clear width. Internal residential corridors must comply with the BCA and AS 1428 (accessibility) requirements.
- P2** Corridors must incorporate natural light and ventilation through windows, atriums, or light wells to reduce confinement and improve amenity. Developments must demonstrate the following to improve internal circulation:
- Provide natural lighting and ventilation.
 - Provide generous corridor widths at lobbies, foyers, lift doors and apartment entry doors.
 - Allow adequate space for the movement of furniture.
 - Minimise corridor lengths to give short, clear sightlines.
 - Articulate long corridors with a series of foyer areas, and/or providing windows along or at the end of the corridor.
 - Avoid tight corners.
- P3** Apartment layout has a significant impact on the length of internal corridors. Development must consider the following to maximise opportunities for natural lighting and ventilation and the overall design of internal corridors:
- maximise the number of pedestrian entries along a street for sites with wide frontages or corner sites.
 - The number of dwelling units accessible off a circulation core must be in accordance with ADG requirements.
 - Articulate the building façade accordingly to minimise corridor lengths and to maximize natural lighting and ventilation.
- P4** Finishes, lighting, and colour treatments of internal corridors/lobby should create a welcoming environment that supports wayfinding and amenity.

HYDRANT FACILITIES AND SUBSTATIONS - INTEGRATION INTO FACADES AND/OR LANDSCAPING

Objectives

- O1** To ensure hydrant facilities, substations, and essential service infrastructure are designed and located to meet operational and emergency access requirements.
- O2** To integrate essential services into the overall building design in a way that minimises visual and acoustic impacts and maintains streetscape quality and residential amenity.

Controls

- P1** Services that require direct street access, including fire hydrant boosters, substations, and similar infrastructure, must be integrated into the overall building design or boundary fence and screened or enclosed.
- P2** These facilities must not detract from the streetscape and must be presented within an architectural treatment, art work, landscaping or screening that complements the building's design, materials, and colours.
- P3** Substations must provide safe and adequate ventilation.
- P4** Development Applications must show the location, dimensions, and design of hydrant boosters and substations on plans and elevations (minimum 1:50 scale) and perspectives, to demonstrate architectural integration.
- P5** Must be designed to meet the requirements of the National Construction Code (Building Code of Australia) NCC and Technical Design Requirements of the relevant infrastructure provider.



Figure 11: Integration of substation, hydrant & boosters with landscaping and building elements
(Source: Google images)

EV READINESS AND EV CHARGING

Objectives

- O1** To ensure new development is designed and constructed to enable safe, efficient and cost-effective electric vehicle (EV) charging for residents, visitors and building services.

- O2** To reduce emissions associated with transport and support Council's sustainability objectives by enabling uptake of electric vehicles.
- O3** To future-proof parking infrastructure so on-site charging can be provided with minimal retrofit cost and minimal disruption to occupants.
- O4** To ensure EV charging infrastructure is safe, accessible, equitable and integrated with building electrical services and strata management arrangements.



Figure 12: EV readiness and EV charging (Source: Google images)

Controls

- P1** EV charging infrastructure (provision of a backbone cable tray and a dedicated space15A circuit with an EV Distribution Board) in private car spaces must be safely integrated into the car parking design and must not obstruct vehicle manoeuvring or pedestrian access, satisfying the NCC requirements.
- P2** All car parking spaces in residential accommodation must be 'EV Ready'. A minimum of one EV-ready connection must be provided to each private residential car space consistent with National Construction Code (NCC) requirements.
- P3** Where scooter and bicycle charging is provided, it must be located in a dedicated room or enclosure (not within residential areas) satisfying the NCC requirements.
- P4** All EV charging areas must provide adequate ventilation, fire detection and suppression appropriate for lithium-ion battery risks
- P5** Development Applications must demonstrate how EV charging facilities are to be provided, including:
 - a) The number and location of EV-ready and EV-installed car spaces (private, visitor and common).
 - b) The location of distribution boards, conduits and enabling infrastructure.
 - c) The location of scooter and bicycle charging rooms, showing separation from lifts and evacuation paths.
 - d) Drawings must clearly identify charging areas and associated infrastructure.

- e) An Electrical Services Report prepared by a qualified electrical engineer demonstrating compliance with the NCC and relevant Australian Standards including load capacity, EV-ready infrastructure and control systems.
 - f) A Fire Safety Statement prepared by a fire safety engineer or suitably qualified consultant (where required), addressing fire separation, detection, suppression and ventilation, particularly for scooter and bicycle charging rooms.
 - g) A summary of EV charging facilities and compliance with the NCC must be provided in the Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE).
- P6** A development application is to be accompanied by a Load Management Plan. Any new substation required on the site must have the electrical/local capacity to facilitate an appropriate volume of EV chargers.
- P7** Must be designed to meet the requirements of the National Construction Code (Building Code of Australia) NCC and Technical Design Requirements of the relevant infrastructure provider.

EXTERNAL NEON, LED NEON AND FAÇADE ILLUMINATION WITHIN THE CBD

Objectives

- O1** To support the 24-hour economy by encouraging creative, safe, and well-designed building illumination.
- O2** To enhance the night-time identity, character, and legibility of the CBD through high-quality external lighting.
- O3** To ensure lighting design is integrated with building architecture and public domain improvements.
- O4** To minimise glare, light spill, energy waste, and adverse amenity impacts on adjoining properties.
- O5** To ensure lighting respects the heritage significance and character of existing buildings and streetscapes.



Figure 13: Integrated illumination using LED/Neon lighting (Source: Google images)



Figure 14: Façade illumination in heritage settings (Source: Google images)



Figure 15: Façade illumination in CBD setting (Source: Google images)

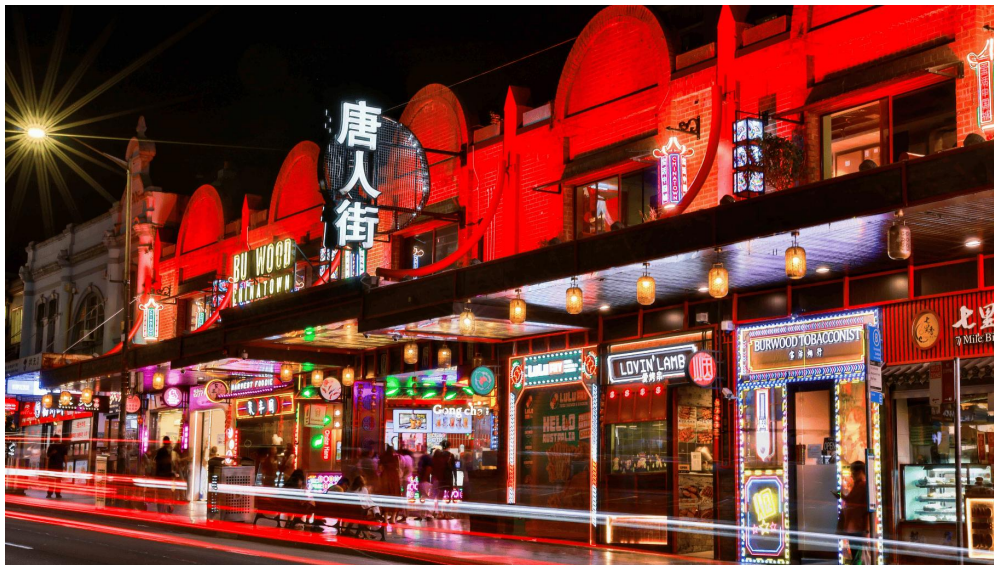


Figure 16: Neon façade illumination in CBD setting (Source: Google images)

Controls

- P1** External neon, LED Neon and Illumination for buildings must be designed as part of the building façade and coordinated with materials, fenestration, and structural lines. Surface-mounted conduits or visible cabling are not permitted. Illumination Must be limited to the main front street elevation.

- P2** Energy-efficient systems such as LED neon or programmable LED lighting are preferred. Traditional gas neon may only be used for heritage restoration or artistic installations.
- P3** Lighting should highlight architectural features or public art, not overwhelm or obscure them. Overly dominant or visually cluttered installations are discouraged.
- P4** Colour-changing or dynamic lighting may be permitted within entertainment precincts if effects are subtle, rhythmic, and do not cause discomfort or confusion with traffic signals. Flashing or strobe effects are prohibited.
- P5** Lighting must be appropriately scaled to the building and street context. Roofline or parapet illumination are supported where forming part of a coordinated architectural or skyline feature.
- P6** Illumination must comply with AS 4282: Control of the Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting. Glare, light trespass, and sky glow must be minimised through shielding, direction, and dimming controls. Illumination shall be designed to be contained within site to which the lighting is installed and shall not to cause a nuisance to other residences in the area, to motorists on nearby roads or aircraft.
- P7** On heritage items or within heritage conservation areas:
- a) Lighting must be non-invasive, reversible, and compatible with architectural detailing.
 - b) Warm, low-intensity lighting ($\leq 3000\text{K}$) is preferred.
 - c) Significant original neon signage (if present) should be retained and conserved where safe and feasible.
- P8** Lighting facing public streets, laneways, or open spaces must contribute positively to pedestrian safety and visual interest without causing distraction or discomfort.
- P9** All installations must demonstrate energy efficiency, use of smart controls (timers, dimmers, or sensors), and minimal maintenance requirements.
- P10** Council may approve short-term or event-based lighting activations for up to 12 months, provided they meet safety, amenity, and design standards.
- P11** Where multiple illuminated features occur within a single block or precinct, proposals must demonstrate a coordinated approach that avoids excessive brightness or visual competition.
- P12** The following Operating Hours will apply:
- a) Lighting may operate until 2:00am in designated special entertainment precincts.
 - b) Lighting must be dimmed or switched off by 12:00am/midnight in all other commercial areas.
 - c) Lighting may remain at reduced brightness ($\leq 30\%$) overnight for safety or wayfinding purposes.
- P13** The following are not permitted:
- a) Flashing, pulsating, or rapidly changing lights (except for approved events);
 - b) Laser projections or sky beams;

- c) Lighting that mimics traffic or emergency signals.

P14 Development applications must include a Lighting Strategy and Luminance Report prepared by a suitably qualified lighting designer, detailing the following:

- a) Lighting objectives, design intent, and technology;
- b) Night-time visualisations or photomontages showing proposed illumination in context;
- c) Luminance levels, maximum brightness (cd/m^2), light colour (Kelvin rating), and light spill analysis;
- d) Compliance with AS 4282 and relevant DCP provisions.

P15 For heritage sites, a Heritage Impact Statement addressing reversibility and visual compatibility.

P16 Council may consider variations to these provisions where proposals demonstrate:

- a) Exceptional design merit or public benefit;
- b) Contribution to the night-time character and safety of the precinct; and
- c) Effective mitigation of environmental and amenity impacts.

C) Climate Resilience and Sustainability improvements

SUSTAINABILITY AND URBAN HEAT LOSS

Objectives

- O1** To ensure the efficient use of resources in building design, construction and operation and reduce over-all environmental impact.
- O2** To ensure that development is resilient against the effects of climate change.
- O3** To reduce urban heat load and increase canopy coverage and ground absorption of water.
- O4** To minimise the impact of new development on the existing stormwater system.
- O5** To minimise discharge of stormwater from site.

Controls

- P1** Development is to use hard-wearing materials that can withstand climatic extremes, including, wind, rain and temperature extremes (each of which may cause warping, bending, blistering, fading or melting) through:
 - (a) Minimising applied finishes where possible.
 - (b) Specifying durable materials, to ensure longevity and withstand the extremes of weather and climate.
 - (c) Specify materials and finishes which patina, weather or age favourably overtime, rather than deteriorate.
 - (d) Selection of materials with longer design life.

- (e) Selection of materials with better performance in hot temperatures.
- P2** Minimise western glazing, use roof overhangs (eaves) and incorporate additional shading to balconies/verandas, where possible.
- P3** Green roofs are encouraged, wherever practical incorporating a range of low maintenance vegetation and native plants including a variety of plant sizes, layers of planting inclusive of fruit and vegetable gardens.
- P4** Stormwater from roofs, streets, pavements and lawns are to be captured and re-used, wherever possible.
- P5** The roof materials of new buildings shall incorporate light colours to prevent the urban heat island effect.
- P6** Stormwater drainage and on-site detention is to be designed in accordance with Council's Stormwater Management Code
- P7** Drainage systems must be sized to consider increases in rainfall intensity, frequency and duration under future climate change.

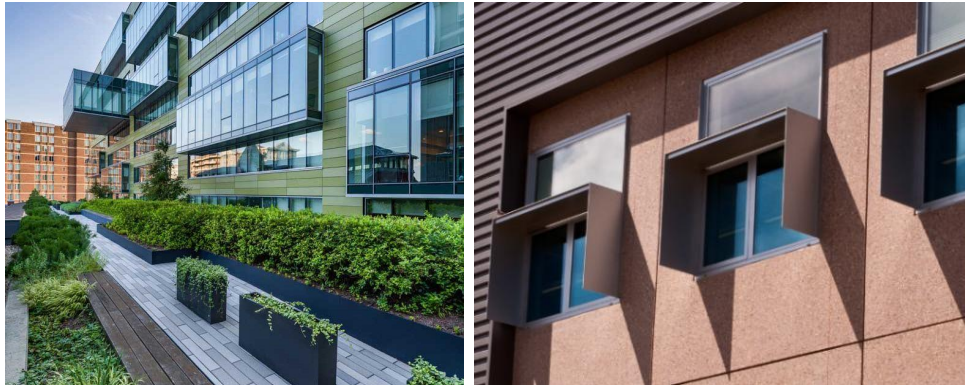


Figure 17: Green roofs and window overhangs and (Source: Google images)

WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN (WSUD)

It is proposed that specific controls relating to Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) be applied to new residential accommodation buildings. This provision will protect and improve the quality of stormwater runoff from the development and will integrate sustainable water management practices into the building and landscape design.

Objectives

- O1** Implement effective Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) and stormwater quality improvements for both private developments and public areas to manage stormwater where practicable.
- O2** Manage the overall discharge of stormwater across the site to mitigate potential negative effects existing downstream waterways, such as erosion, pollution, sedimentation and local area flooding.
- O3** Ensure that on-site stormwater management measures can be operated and maintained according to design specifications

Controls

- P1** All developments must implement a rainwater retention and WSUD approach. Specific calculation guidelines for the extent of Rainwater Collection and WSUD provision are to be in accordance with Council's Stormwater Management Plan and in proportion to the scale of development.
- P2** Unless otherwise advised by Council, WSUD systems must generally be designed to treat storm events up to the 1-1.5 year flooding event. Low flows of this frequency must be separated from higher flows, which will be diverted into on-site detention (OSD) and other stormwater quantitative management systems.
- P3** Developments must maximise the capture and reuse of rainwater from roofs where possible.
- P4** Where practicable, WSUD treatments must be used in as many instances as possible and mechanical treatment technology should only be used if necessary.
- P5** WSUD principles must be integrated into the development through the design of stormwater drainage, on-site detention, and landscaping, as well as in the orientation of the development and should avoid reliance on 'end of pipe' treatment devices prior to discharge.
- P6** Impervious surfaces are to be avoided where practicable
- P7** Rainwater storage and tanks are encouraged for all developments, with a provision for greater capacity than the minimum BASIX requirement for residential developments.
- P8** Developments should be sited and built to minimise disturbances on natural drainage systems
- P9** Adequate provisions must be made for the control and discharge of stormwater runoff from the site to ensure that it does not adversely impact Council's stormwater drainage systems, waterways, the development itself, or adjoining properties.
- P10** The construction of stormwater drainage lines through public reserves or land that may be dedicated to Council is not permitted
- P11** Stormwater drainage is to be designed in accordance with Council's Stormwater Management Code.
- P12** Stormwater runoff must not adversely impact surrounding properties or Council infrastructure and assets through the diversion and concentration of flows.
- P13** For developments connecting to the existing site stormwater drainage system, a plan indicating the layout and details of the existing system, along with a certificate from a qualified and practicing plumber certifying the functionality and condition of the system, must be submitted with the Development Application.
- P14** All developments involving site disturbance must include details of Erosion and Sedimentation Control measures designed in accordance with the Soil and Water Management for Urban Development – NSW Department of Housing and Stormwater Management Code.

- P15** Connection of any stormwater or drainage systems to Council's systems must be undertaken in accordance with Council's Stormwater Management Code.
- P16** Charged drainage is permitted within the development. However, the final discharge of stormwater to Council infrastructure must be by gravity.
- P17** Private drainage easements must be designed and located on the lower side of a property, be free of building encroachments and must comply with Council's Stormwater Management Code.



Figure 18: Integrated Water Sensitive Urban Design on the ground plane (Source: Google images)

CAR SHARE PARKING SPACE

Objectives

To facilitate sustainable transport choices by providing well-located and accessible car share parking spaces within new developments and public areas, thereby reducing private car ownership, supporting active and public transport use, and optimising the efficiency of limited parking and road space.

Controls

- P1** In any form of residential accommodation which exceeds ten or more self-contained dwellings, one car parking space within the development is to be allocated as Car Share Parking Space, with clear signage for the exclusive use of a car share scheme.
- P2** The car share parking space must be accessible and clearly identified on the plan and is to be retained as common property of the Owners Corporate of the site.



D) Minor Amendments to Section 4.1.2 of Burwood DCP to apply to RFBs across Burwood LGA

Existing Clause	Proposed Clause
<p><i>Setbacks</i></p> <p>P2 The front setback of a building is to be a minimum of 6m.</p>	<p>P2 The front setback of a building is to be a minimum of 6m, 50% of which must be landscaped.</p> <p>Retain and protect existing trees above 10m tall within the 10m of property boundaries. Adjust building façade alignments accordingly. AS 4970:2025 Protection of trees on development sites, requirements would apply.</p> <p>No basement is permitted under the front setback to allow growth of mature trees.</p> <p>A minimum of 1.2m and preferably 1.5m depth of two horizon growing medium and drainage from top of slab to finished surface where basement parking under the front setback cannot be avoided.</p> <p>Private landscape areas at the property boundary must be designed to match the adjoining street levels. Retaining walls along the street frontage must not exceed 800mm in height.</p> <p>On sloping streets, the front setbacks may be terraced down along the street frontage, provided that no individual wall exceeds 800mm in height.</p> <p>The contiguous landscape area must not be divided by retaining walls running parallel to the property boundary.</p>
<p><i>Landscaping</i></p> <p>P10 A minimum of 10% of the site area is to be deep soil and have a minimum dimension of 4 metres.</p>	<p>P10 A minimum of 10% of the site area is to be deep soil and have a minimum dimension of 4 metres.</p> <p>For sites larger than 1500sqm, a deep soil zone shall consist 15% of the site.</p> <p>Where a basement carpark protrudes to deep soil areas, provide suitable two horizon topsoil growing medium, including a drainage layer to allow for mature tree growth.</p>
<p><i>Length of Building Facades</i></p> <p>P5 The maximum frontage length of a building facing a street is 45 metres.</p>	<p>P5 The maximum frontage length of a building facing a street is 45 metres. The front facades of buildings are to include articulation elements at least every 5 metres.</p>

<p><i>Building Design</i></p> <p>P4 Uninterrupted blank wall is to be avoided in all visible parts of the façade from the public domain or adjacent neighbourhood. Blank wall should demonstrate visual interest through articulation and material integrated with the overall façade design.</p>	<p>P4 Uninterrupted blank wall is to be avoided in all visible parts of the façade from the public domain or adjacent neighbourhood.</p> <p>Blank wall should demonstrate visual interest through articulation of material and incorporation of temporary or permanent public art installations created by local artists, integrated with the overall façade design.</p> <p>This shall be in accordance with the requirements of the <i>Burwood Public Art Guideline for Developers</i>.</p>
<p><i>Private Open Space</i></p> <p>P1 Private open space may be in the form of courtyards, decks or balconies and is to be provided for every dwelling in a development.</p>	<p>P1 Private open space may be in the form of courtyards, decks, balconies or on podium levels and is to be provided for every dwelling in a development to cater for the immediate needs of the new residents.</p>

E) Minor Amendments to Chapter 1 of Burwood DCP

Insert the paragraph below at the end of **Part 1.6 Relationship to Other Plans and Policies**

Development Applications are required to demonstrate alignment with Council's adopted strategic plans, policies, guidelines, and technical manuals relevant to the site or development type. Where variations are proposed, applicants must provide a justification demonstrating that the intent and objectives of the relevant policy or guideline are achieved to Council's satisfaction. In assessing proposals, Council will consider merit-based compliance with its adopted strategic plans, policies, and guidelines.



4 December 2025

Amita Maharjan
Executive Strategic Planner
Burwood Council
PO Box 240
BURWOOD NSW 1805

Sent to: council@burwood.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Maharjan

DCP Amendment – Liveability Improvements to Apartment Developments

I write with regard to Council's proposed amendment to require liveability improvements in apartments.

Urban Taskforce Australia recognises the intent behind the proposal, namely to promote higher standards of liveability.

However, we are concerned that the approach being taken – to make such features mandatory – may not provide the flexibility needed to allow project to be viable and indeed, may put at risk development of housing in your LGA due to the potential damage to financial feasibility.

Urban Taskforce believes that a mix of encouragement and incentives would be more effective in delivering liveability and we call on Council to reconsider. Not every building requires all of the features specified in the DCP, but the proposed change does not give options to developers to deliver the facilities required by their homebuyers.

A one-size-fits-all approach does not address the individual differences between buildings and their occupants. For example:

- While integrating hydrant facilities and substations within the building design may be desirable for **streetscape** purposes, this will reduce available floorspace for the development. Hydrants that are integrated into the building design should be required to meet the needs of Fire and Rescue NSW (for example, being readily identifiable in the event of a fire), but not go beyond that.
- Buildings that are located in close proximity to public transport nodes should not be required to provide **end-of-trip facilities**.
- While **wider corridor widths** may be desired, the National Construction Code was changed fifteen years ago, specifying that corridors should be 1,000 mm minimum width, as referenced in AS1428.1. This was reinforced in the 2022 Livable Housing Design Standard, which also specifies 1,000 mm. AS1428.2, which was designed for "enhanced access" (for 90% of all people with disabilities), and which was not picked up by the NCC, specifies a width of 1,200 mm.

Burwood Council is specifying 1,500 mm for single-direction circulation and 1,800 mm for two-way passing. This significantly exceeds both the research (as represented by the disability standards) and the regulations, without any assessment of the costs, benefits, or the perceived needs that Council seeks to address. Council should withdraw this proposed change absent the completion of a full cost-benefit analysis.

- Are **car share parking facilities** to be included in every building of 10 parking spaces or more? This would create a significant amount of empty car share spaces, given that there is not the volume of shared vehicles to occupy them. For example, GoGet has 3,500 vehicles across Australia. In 2021, Burwood Council had 7,314 high density dwellings. A car space in every 10 would provide twice as many car share parking spaces in Burwood LGA alone as one of the main car share companies has in the entire country. Council should reconsider this position.
- **Climate and resource efficiency measures** are already required in the National Construction Code through NatHERS. Urban Taskforce members are very concerned that there is no cost-benefit to ensure that the proposals in the DCP are reasonable and affordable. Indeed, the Commonwealth Productivity Commission slammed the development of these standards for not having considered the cost associated with their implementation. Council appears to be falling into the same trap. This position should be reconsidered.
- **EV readiness** as proposed in the DCP amendment document will significantly add to the cost of new dwelling development. While Urban Taskforce members support the shift towards EVs, mandating power connections and charging infrastructure for every car space will add additional costs to the provision of new housing. It will also add to the need for sub-station capacity and transformers, increasing costs.

The development industry delivers building features to appeal to potential purchasers. The features described in the draft DCP would be considered by developers as they plan their buildings. On this occasion, Council has reached out way beyond consumer demand for EVs and has left the bill with new home purchasers.

Requiring all these features to be in all buildings for all dwellings could undermine the leading role being played by Burwood Council so far in delivering affordable and cost-effective housing.

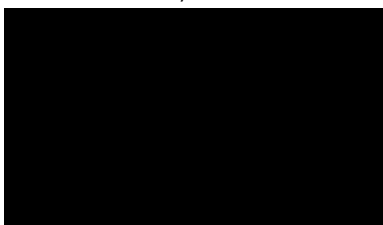
Urban Taskforce believes that the proposals in the DCP should be part of a guideline, rather than a DCP and that Council should work with applicants to encourage the provision of some of these elements within their projects.

A building that becomes unfeasible is – by definition – not liveable (because it won't get built).

We urge Burwood Council to work with the development community to encourage the incorporation of more liveable features within projects, rather than mandating it through the DCP.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this submission further, please contact our Policy, Planning and Research Analyst, Paul Waterhouse, on 0411-875-366 or via email paul@urbantaskforce.com.au

Yours sincerely



Tom Forrest
Chief Executive Officer

Submission from a local resident

Response No:
1**Contribution ID:** 10604
Member ID:
Date Submitted: Nov 29, 2025, 01:46 PM**Q1 Full Name**

Short Text

Q2 Residential Address

Long Text

Q3 Email Address

Email

Q4 Please provide you feedback:

Long Text

My comments

Housing developments, no matter how large, must serve the needs of families with children of all ages and those of older people with mobility issues who will live within them.

- Designs must show relevance to the needs of children, families and older people and demonstrate safety and security for them, particularly in design of balconies, and with consideration of outdoor play and relaxation areas as well as safety in car access and parking areas.

Efficiency in energy use in housing becomes more and more important for lowering Greenhouse Gas emissions and protecting against heat and other climate change effects which impact liveability.

- Sustainability designs should be set at 4.5 Nabers as a minimum and demonstrate good ventilation and how wind abatement, aspect orientation, temperature controls and flood management have been considered.

- Grey water retention systems for re-use on site should also be considered.

Renewable energy generation on roofs is increasingly important for liveability because owners and tenants will benefit financially in reduced energy bills and will be well positioned to participate in the economic/energy transition now underway.

- Designs that include the provision of solar panels on roofs are encouraged and where possible should be integrated with green roofs (solar panels are more efficient when installed in green roofs, because they stay cooler).
- Necessary electrical wiring into apartments should be provided so that future owners may later instal hardware for the sharing of solar electricity from their building's roof.

Electrification of equipment for heating, cooking, water and other heating and cooling within apartments are also liveability matters for cost of living and for health (gas is known to be a health hazard for children with asthma and others.) Heat pumps for hot water systems may best be accommodated in external secure areas for apartments.

- Designs should incorporate full electrification of equipment for apartments and provision of space for external heat pumps for hot water provision.

Include under liveability DCP or consider separate Landscape Control provision.

- Use of porous surfaces where possible in outdoor areas and alternatives to concrete use should be considered.

- Adequate soil volume available for tree growth and canopy development is needed.

- Plantings and seating infrastructure in accessible outdoor areas designed to promote relaxation and engagement with others is important.

- Green walls and roofs are strongly encouraged and should be delivered by a qualified landscape architect or designer who must provide examples of their previous work establishing their record in successful, workable green infrastructure designs.

- Balcony designs should provide some infrastructure for growing plants including vegetables.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Liveability DCP.